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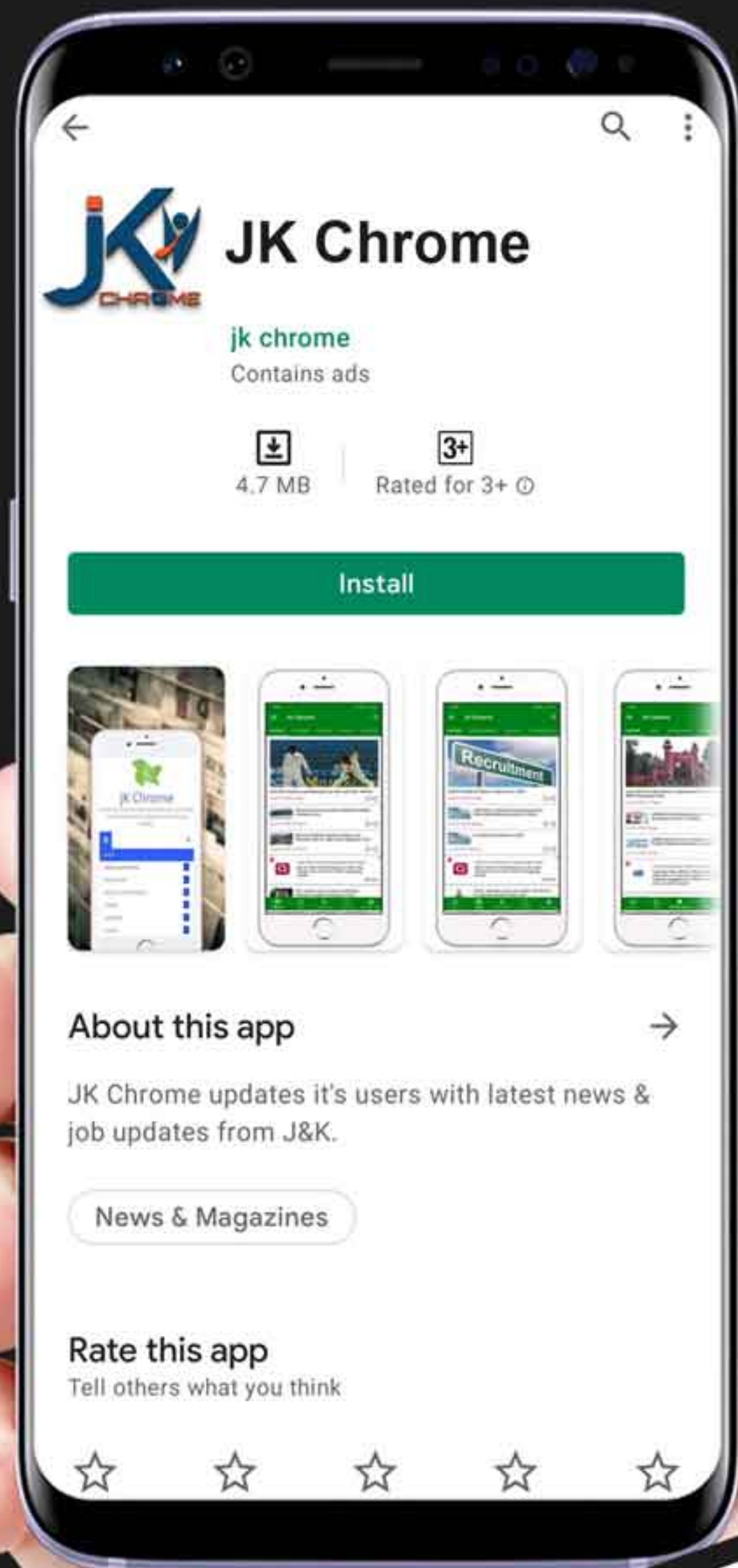
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# Medieval India Notes

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## 1. EARLY MEDIEVAL KINGDOMS IN INDIA

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### INTRODUCTION:

- The distinction of Indian History into Ancient Medieval and Modern is rather arbitrary one with different historians having different viewpoints on it.
- However, by and large, Medieval India is marked by the dominance of Islam at a political level which is a marked shift from the ancient period where Hinduism Buddhism and Jainism dominated Indian Political and Social spheres.
- The invasion of Muhammad Bin Qasim (712-715) on the North West frontiers of India is considered as the first concrete Islamic invasion attributed to the specific king. This is the exact reason why most Historians consider the 7th and 8th century AD as the beginning of the Medieval period within India.
- During the contemporary time north India's political scene was dominated by multiple Hindu dynasties and Rajput were the most prominent among them. In this chapter, we will throw light on certain important dynasties of those times.

### PRatihara DYNASTY:

- The Pratihara dynasty was an imperial power during the Late Classical period in the Indian subcontinent, that ruled much of Northern India from the mid-8th to the 11th century.
- They claimed descent from the legendary hero Lakshmana, who is said to have acted as a *pratihara* ("door-keeper") for his brother Rama's wife Sita.
- They ruled over western India and parts of northern India from the mid-7th century to the 11th century.
- **Nagabhata-I** was the real founder of the family with Kannauj as its capital. He defeated the Muslim forces from the Arabs.
- The Gwalior inscription mentioned the early history of the family. The inscription was founded by **King Bhoja** in the 8th century. He was the most famous king of the Gurjara Pratihara dynasty.
- The Pratihara dynasty dominated North India for over two hundred years from the 8th century to the 10th century A.D.
- Arab scholar, Al-Masudi, visited India in 967 AD. He wrote a book named Muruj-al-Zahab. He mentioned the great powers and prestige of the Pratihara rulers and the vastness of their empire.
- The Pratihara kings were followers of Hinduism. They build many fine buildings and temples. Eg. Bateshwar Group of Temples is a group of about 44 temples spread over an area of 25 acres, built across the sloping hills at Bateshwar, Morena, Madhya Pradesh. Most of the temples are dedicated to Shiva or Vishnu.

- The epigraphic records show that the building of temples and the educational institutions attached to them formed community projects, in which the entire village community participated.

### FAMOUS RULERS:

#### 1. Mihirbhoja I (836–885 AD):

- He became successful in consolidating the empire. He also tried to extend his kingdom in the east and south, but he was resisted by the Palas in the east and Rashtrakutas in the south.
- Following the death of the Pala ruler Devapala and the weakening of the Pala Empire, Bhoja was able to extend his empire in the east.
- Bhoja was a devotee of Vishnu and adopted the title of 'Adivaraha' which has been found inscribed in some of his coins.
- Bhoja was succeeded by his son Mahendrapala I in 885AD. He extended his empire further east over Magadha and north Bengal.

#### 2. Mahendrapala I (885-910 AD):

- Mahendrapala-I also extended the boundaries of his empire. During his reign, the Pratihara Empire stretched almost from the Himalayas in the north to the Vindhyas in the south and from Bengal in the east to Gujarat in the west.
- Mahendrapala-I was also known as 'Mahendrayudha', and 'Nirbhayanarendra.' He was a liberal patron of learned men.
- Rajashehara was learned man of his court. He had written *Karpuramanjari*, *Bal Ramayana*, *Bala Bharata*, *Kavyamimansa*, *Bhuvankosha*, *Viddhshalbhajjika* and *Harivilasa*.

### DECLINE OF EMPIRE:

- The hereditary enmity of the Pratiharas with the Rashtrakutas proved dangerous to the flourishing Empire of the Pratiharas.
- The Pratihara power began to decline after Mahmud of Ghazni attacked the kingdom in 1018 A.D.
- After the decline of the Pratiharas their feudatories Palas, Tomars, Chauhans, Rathors, Chandellas, Guhilas, and Paramaras became independent rulers.

### CHANDELA DYNASTY:

- Chandela dynasty led a great part of the Bundelkhand district of central India for a long period of time between the 10th and the 13th century AD.
- The Chandela dynasty is known in Indian history for Maharaja Rao Vidyadhara, who spurned the assaults of Mahmud of Ghazni.
- The Chandelas came into notice for the first time in the 9th century when a Chandela called Nanuka overthrew the Partihara Chieftain and established the dynasty of Chandelas of Jejakabhukti.
- The Chandelas are well known for their art and architecture, most notably for the temples at their original capital Khajuraho. Eg. Kandariya Mahadev temple, Lakshmana temple.
- Chandela rulers had tried to differentiate politics from religious & cultural activities, so they established their political capital in Mahoba which is about 60km away from Khajuraho, the religious/cultural capital.
- Khajuraho is known for its ornate temples that are a spectacular piece of human imagination, artistic creativity, magnificent architectural work and deriving spiritual peace through eroticism.
- It is presumed that every Chandela ruler has built at least one temple in his lifetime. So, all Khajuraho Temples are not constructed by any single Chandella ruler but Temple building was a tradition of Chandella rulers and followed by almost all rulers of the Chandela dynasty.

**FAMOUS RULERS:****1. Harsha (905-925 AD):**

- The first king who started construction in Khajuraho was Harsha, who built the 64 Yogini Temples. Harsha is known by his title 'Parambhattaraka' in Khajuraho inscription.

**2. Yashovarman (925-950 AD):**

- He was also known as Lakshavarman.
- He practically established the Chandelas as a sovereign power, although he formally acknowledged the suzerainty of the Gurjara-Pratiharas.
- His major military achievement was the conquest of Kalanjara (modern Kalinjar).
- He is also notable for having commissioned the Lakshmana Temple at Khajuraho.
  - Lakshmana temple is one of the biggest stone temples in Khajuraho and it was dedicated to Lord Vishnu.
  - The major architectural attractions of this temple are detailed outer walls sculptures, Lord Vishnu's reincarnation statue, some erotic structures and sculptures of elephants and horsemen, etc.

**3. Dhanga (950-999 AD):**

- The most notable ruler of this dynasty was King Dhanga (950-999AD) whose time is known for building the most beautiful Khajuraho Temples of Parsvanath and Vishwavanath.
- Dhanga's chief minister was a Brahmin named Prabhasa, who had been appointed after being tested by the standards mentioned in the *Arthashastra*.
- According to the Nanyaura inscription, Dhanga used to make regular gifts on occasions such as a solar eclipse, believing it to be meritorious for him and his deceased parents. The king also performed the prestigious and expensive *Tulapurusha* or gift-giving ceremony.
- His grandson Vidyadhara (1003-1035 AD) built the Kandariya Mahadev Temple. Kandariya Mahadev temple is the largest and tallest Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Shiva.
  - The architectural styles of the temple resemble the Mount Kailash with the main spire at a height of 31 meters.
  - The Shiva Linga in the temple made of marble is the major attraction of the temple. Here one can see nearly 800 carved sculptures and 646 statues.
- The last notable King of this dynasty was Paradedev (Parmadi) who fought Prithviraj Chauhan in 1182 AD. The battle was the Battle of Mahoba.
- Paramal, the last Chandella ruler was defeated by Qutb-Ud-Din Aibak in 1203 AD.

**CHAUHAN DYNASTY:**

- The Chauhans declared their independence in the 1101 century at Ajmer and they were the feudatories of the Pratiharas.
- They originally belonged to Agnivanshi Clan (descendants of the Fire God) of Rajputs.
- They captured Ujjain from the Paramaras of Malwa and Delhi in the early part of the 12th century. Later they shifted their capital to Delhi.

**FAMOUS RULERS:****1. Ajaya Raja (1110-1135AD):**

- He was the first ruler of Chauhans.
- He defeated the Paramaras and captured their capital Ujjaini.
- He was the founder of the beautiful city, Ajmer.

## 2. **Vigraha Raja (1153-1163AD):**

- He started his victorious career by conquering small states of Southern Rajputana from the Chalukyas and the Paramaras.
- The 1164 CE Delhi-Shivalik pillar inscription states that Vighararaja conquered the region between the Himalayas and the Vindhya. The Himalayas and the Vindhya form the traditional boundary of Aryavarta (the land of ancient Aryans), and Vighararaja claimed to have restored the rule of Aryans in this land.
- He triumphed over the Tomaras and took possession of Eastern Punjab and Delhi.
- A poet named Jayanak gave him the title of Kavi Bhandhav. He had a famous court poet named Somdev who wrote Lalit Vigreya Raj and Katha Sarit Sagar.
- Vigraha Raja wrote a drama named 'Harikela'. The only extant parts of *Harikela Nataka* were found inscribed in the ruined Sanskrit college and Saraswati temple at Ajmer, which was later converted into the Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra mosque by Qutb-Ud-Din-Aibak.
- One of his inscriptions can be found on the Ashokan pillar at Topra in modern-day Haryana.

## 3. **Prithviraj Chauhan (1178-1192 AD):**

- Prithviraj achieved military successes against several neighboring Hindu kingdoms, most notably against the Chandela king Paramardi.
- During 1190–1191 CE, Muhammad of Ghor invaded the Chahamanas territory and captured Tabarhindah or Tabar-e-Hind (identified with Bathinda). Thereafter he sought to invade Delhi, the capital of Chauhanas.
- In a fierce 1st battle of Tarain Prithviraj repulsed the invasions of Muhammad of Ghor in 1191.
- However, in 1192 CE, the Ghurids defeated Prithviraj at the Second Battle of Tarain. His defeat at Tarain is seen as a landmark event in the Islamic conquest of India and has been described in several semi-legendary accounts.
- Chandbardai, the Hindi poet of his (Prithviraj's) court had written the famous book '*Prithviraj-Raso*', considered as the first great epic of Hindi literature. According to it, Prithviraj was captured and was taken to Ghazni where he was executed because he killed Muhammad Ghori. However, this account is largely refuted by the modern-day historians as mere fiction.
- The Chauhanas lost their treasury, time and soldiers in the battle and its successors after the battle were short of resources which gradually made the dynasty decline.

### **PARAMARA DYNASTY:**

- The Parmaras established themselves rulers of Malwa in central India in the 9th century, ruling from their capital Dhar. They were able to rule till 1305 when Malwa was conquered finally by Alauddin Khilji.
- The Parmaras is one of the 4 Agnikula clans of Rajputs.
- The territory under them was the region north of Narmada and was known as "Kingdom of Ujjain".
- The Paramara Dynasty was founded by a chief called Upendra (Krishanaraja) at the beginning of the 9th century.
- Akbar suppressed the local dynasty and incorporated Malwa in Mughal Empire in 1569.

### **FAMOUS RULERS:**

#### 1. **Siyaka Harsha (949-972 AD):**

- He appears to have been the first independent ruler of the Paramara dynasty.

- Siyaka is the earliest Paramara ruler known from his own inscriptions, which have been discovered in present-day Gujarat, and suggest that he was once a feudatory of the Rashtrakutas of Manyakheta.
- After the death of the Rashtrakuta emperor Krishna III, he fought against the new king Khottiga and sacked the Rashtrakuta capital Manyakheta in 972 AD.
- According to the Khajuraho inscription, Chandela king Yashovarman defeated him.

## 2. Vakpati Munja (972-990 AD):

- He is known for consolidating the Paramara kingdom, and for patronizing poets and scholars.
- He also achieved some early successes against the Western Chalukya king Tailapa II but was ultimately defeated and killed by Tailapa sometime between 994 CE and 998 CE.
- Munja is also known as "Vakpati" (Master of speech), *Vakpati-rajā*, *Vakpati-rajā-deva*, and *Utpala-rajā*. In addition, he assumed the titles *Amoghavarsha*, *Sri-Vallabh*, and *Prithvi-Vallabh*, which were used by the Rashtrakuta kings.
- He is believed to have excavated the Munja-Sagara (Munj Sagar) lake in Dhara and the Munja-talao tank in Mandu.
- The poets patronized by him included Dhananjaya, Bhatta Halayudha, Shobhana Dhanika, Padmagupta and Amitagati.
- The 12th-century Jain writer Hemachandra describes Munja among the four learned kings; the other three being the legendary Vikramaditya and Shalivahana, and Munja's nephew Bhoja.

## 3. Bhoj Parmara (1010-1055 AD):

- Bhoja fought wars with nearly all his neighbors in attempts to extend his kingdom, with varying degrees of success.
- He compared himself with Prithu in the Udaipur inscription and states that he "ruled the earth from Kailash to Malaya hills and up to the mountains of the setting and the rising sun". He conquered Orissa, Lata, and south Konkana.
- At its zenith, his kingdom extended from Chittor in the north to upper Konkan in the south, and from the Sabarmati River in the west to Vidisha in the east.
- He was a great author and wrote many books. He is said to have been the author of about two dozen works on a variety of subjects, such as medicine, astronomy, religion, grammar, architecture, arts, etc. He was known as Kaviraja.
- Some important works of Bhoja are as follows:
  - *Saraswatikanthabharna*: A treatise on Sanskrit Grammar for poetic and rhetorical compositions
  - *Rajmartanda*: A major commentary on Patanjali's yoga sutra
  - *Samarangana Sutradhara*: A Treatise on architecture and Civil Engineering
  - *TattvaPrakasha*: A treatise on Shaivite philosophy and Tantras
  - *Charucharya*: A treatise on personal hygiene
  - *Bhujabala-Bhima*: a work on astrology
  - *Shalihotra*: a book on horses, their diseases and the remedies
  - *Yukti-Kalpataru*: a work dealing with several topics including statecraft, politics, city-building, jewel-testing, characteristics of books, shipbuilding, etc.
  - *Rajamriganka*: A treatise on chemistry (ores) and drugs.
- The Bhojeshwar temple at Bhojpur near Bhopal was established by him. The temple is incomplete and is dedicated to Shiva. He built the famous temple of goddess Saraswati at Dhara.



- The Bhojpur Lake, a beautiful water body near Bhopal was built during his time by massive embankment closing the outlets in a circle of mountains was one of the greatest works of Raja Bhoj. The dam was later destroyed by Hoshang Shah.
- He erected a Vijay Stambha (Pillar of victory) at Dhara and constructed Tribhuvan Narayana Temple at Chittor.
- He found the city of Bhojpur and a Sanskrit college at Dhara known as Bhojshala.
- It was probably the fear of Bhoja's organized army that Mahmud Ghaznavi returned via Thar Desert rather than attacking the Parmara kingdom.
- The Chalukyas had made an alliance with the Rastrakutas and Kachhwahas against Parmaras and defeated Bhoja towards the end of his reign.

### **SOLANKI OR CHALUKYAS DYNASTY:**

- The Solankis were also one of the Agnikula clans of the Rajputs, however, it is believed that they descend from the Badami Chalukyas.
- They are also known as the **Chalukyas of Gujarat**, ruled parts of what is now Gujarat and Rajasthan in north-western India, between 940 CE and 1244 CE. Their capital was located at Anahilavada (modern Patan in Gujarat).
- According to Vadnagar Prashasti (of Kumarapala dated 971 AD), they were born out of the Kamandala of God Brahma. This Prashasti was composed by Shripala.
- The dynasty was established by one chief named Mularaja who reigned from 942 to 996 AD.

### **FAMOUS RULERS:**

#### **1. Bhima I (1022-1063 AD):**

- In 1025, Mahmud Ghaznavi attacked during his reign at Somnath, he fled and took shelter in Kutch. It was Raja Bhoj that chased Mahmud and Mahmud returned via the Thar Deserts.
- During his period, his vassal Vimla constructed the famous Dilwara temple at Mount Abu, which is a Jain temple. It was built in the memory of Jain Tirthankara, *Vrishabh Dev*.

#### **2. Jayasimha Siddhraj (1094-1143 AD):**

- He assumed the title of Avanti Ratha in commemoration of victory over Malwa.
- Jayasimha patronized several scholars and made Gujarat a noted center of learning and literature. He patronized the famous Jaina scholar Hemchandra.
- Jayasimha was a Shaivite, but he showed tolerance to other sects and religions.
- He started the *Siddh Samvat*. He abolished the religious tax for '*darshan*' in Somnath temple.
- Jayasimha either renovated or rebuilt the Rudra Mahalaya Temple at Siddhapura (modern Siddhpur). It was the greatest temple of that period, of which only some pillars, shrines and arches survive today. It was completed in 1142 CE.
- He renovated a lake built by his ancestor Durlabha in Patan and named it Sahastralinga ("1000 lingas"). The lake was surrounded by 1008 small shrines, each of which housed a linga (symbol of Shiva).

#### **3. Kumarapala (1143-1173 AD):**

- He ascended the throne after Jayasimha's death, ruled for nearly three decades, during which he subdued a number of neighboring kings, including the Chahamana king Arnoraja and the Shilahara king Mallikarjuna.
- Kumarapala was well known for his patronage of Jainism, and several medieval Jain scholars wrote chronicles about him. These scholars include Hemachandra (*Dvyashraya* and *Mahaviracharita*),

Prabhachandra, Somaprabha (*Kumarapala-Pratibodha*), Merutunga (*Prabandha-Chintamani*), Jayasimha Suri, Rajashekhara and Jina-Mandana Suri.

- The Jain chronicles state that Kumarapala banned animal slaughter, alcohol, gambling and adultery after his conversion to Jainism.
- He had a famous poet in his court named *Jai Singh Suri* who wrote *Kumar Pal Charit*.
- His biography *Kumarpalcharita* was written by Jai Singh. Another biography i.e. *Kumarapala Pratibodh* was written by Somprabhacharya.

### **PALA DYNASTY:**

- The empire was founded with the election of Gopala as the emperor of Gauda in 750 CE. The Pala stronghold was located in Bengal and Bihar, which included the major cities of Vikrampur, Pataliputra, Gauda, Monghyr, Somapura, Ramvati (Varendra), Tamralipta and Jaggadala.
- The empire was founded with the election of Gopala as the emperor of Gauda in 750 CE.
- The Pala period is also known as a 'Golden Era' in Bengali history. They built grand temples and monasteries, including the Somapura Mahavihara, Odantapuri Monastery and patronized the great universities of Nalanda and Vikramashila.
- At its height in the early 9th century, the Pala Empire was the dominant power in the northern Indian subcontinent, with its territory stretching across parts of modern-day eastern Pakistan, northern and northeastern India, Nepal and Bangladesh.
- During this time, the Bengali language developed. The first Bengali literary work Charyapada is attributed to this period. It was written in an Abahatta (the common ancestor of Bengali, Assamese, Odia, and Maithili).
- Sanskrit scholars were also patronized by the Pala kings. Gaudapada composed *Agama Shastra* during the time of the Palas.
- The Pala art (art seen in Bengal and Bihar during the Pala regime) influence is seen in the art of Nepal, Sri Lanka, Burma, and Java.

### **FAMOUS RULERS:**

#### **1. Dharmapala (770-810 AD):**

- He defeated Indrayudha and installed Chakrayudha as his nominee on the throne of Kannauj.
- Dharmapala was defeated twice by the Gurjara-Pratiharas, but each time the Rashtrakutas subsequently defeated the Pratiharas, leaving Palas as the dominant power in North India.
- He considered himself the most powerful ruler in North India and declared himself as *Uttarapathasvamin* ("Lord of the North").
- Dharmapala was a great patron of Buddhism. He revived the Nalanda university and founded the Vikramshila university which later evolved into a great learning center of Buddhism.
- He built the great Somapura Mahavihara in Paharpur, Naogaon District, Bangladesh which is UNESCO's world heritage site.

#### **2. Devapala (810-850 AD):**

- He was the son of Dharmapala and Rannadevi, a Rashtrakuta princess.
- He extended the kingdom to Assam and Odisha.
- He was a staunch Buddhist and built many monasteries and temples in Magadha.
- He gave 5 villages to Balaputradev, the Shailendra ruler of Java to construct a Buddhist Vihara at Nalanda.
- He defeated the Rashtrakuta ruler Amoghavarsha.
- Buddhist poet Vajradatta who composed *Lokesvarashataka* was in Devapala's court.

- Devapala made Viradev the president of Nalanda University.

### 3. Mahipala (988-1038 AD):

- He is considered as the restorer of Pala's prestige. He confronted Northern Military campaigns of Rajendra Chola.
- Mahipala's reign marked a resurgence in fortunes for the Pala empire whose boundaries were expanded as far as Varanasi.
- Revolt of kaivartas took place during his reign under the leadership of Divya also known as Divoka. It is said that Mahipala was killed during this revolt.

### GAHADWALA DYNASTY:

- They ruled parts of the present-day Indian states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, during the 11th and 12th centuries. Their capital was located at Varanasi in the Gangetic plains.
- Chandra Deva (1090- 1103 AD) was the founder of this dynasty.

### FAMOUS RULERS:

#### 1. Govindachandra (1114-1155 AD):

- He was the most powerful king of the Gahadwala dynasty. He conquered Magadha, eastern Malwa from Parmaras and Bihar from Pala ruler Ramapala.
- As a prince, he achieved military successes against the Ghaznavids and the Palas. As a sovereign, he defeated the Kalachuris of Tripuri and annexed some of their territories.
- The 1114 AD Pali inscription, which is the earliest extant inscription from Govindachandra's reign, states that he captured the "elephants of nine kingdoms" (*nava-rajya-gaja*).
- Govindachandra appreciated and patronized different branches of learning and adopted the title 'Vividha-vidya-vichara-vachaspati'.

#### 2. Jaichandra (1170-1194 AD):

- His territory included much of the present-day eastern Uttar Pradesh and some parts of western Bihar.
- He had a conflict with Prithviraj Chauhan of Delhi and Ajmer. The reference to this conflict is mentioned in Chandarbardai's Prithviraj Raso. He allied with the foreign Ghurids to ensure Prithviraj's downfall. The name "Jaichand" became synonymous with the word "traitor" in the folklore of northern India because of this incident.
- He was defeated and killed in 1194 AD, in a fight against Mohammad Ghauri in the battle of Chandawar. Hasan Nizami, the sultanat historian, had written about this fight.

### CONCLUSION:

- As we have seen the North India was dominated by the strong Rajput dynasties during the early wave of Islamic invasion in India. But, despite their strength and capabilities, these dynasties could not hold on against the central and west Asian Islamic invaders.
- Multiple reasons can be sighted for this like infighting among Rajputs and neglect of western frontiers by the Indian Kings. However, the strongest reason for their defeat was that Rajput could never truly put a united front against the invaders.
- This lack of unity and self-centric administration of Rajputs ultimately led to the defeat of Prithviraj Chauhan in the 2nd Battle of Tarain in 1192 at the hands of Mahmud of Ghori whose prominent commander Qutub Ud Din Aibak, who, later on, established Delhi Sultanate in 1206.

## 2. FOREIGN INVASIONS IN INDIA

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### **MAHMUD GHAZNAVI (998-1030 AD):**

- In 998 AD, the Turkish conqueror, Mahmud of Ghazni, succeeded his father, and established a huge empire in Central Asia, with capital at Ghazni, the present-day South Kabul.
- For 17 times, he attacked India during the period between 1000 and 1027 AD, a significant event in the history of India.

**Reasons for invasions:** Mahmud of Ghazni had started his invasions in India during the period when the Rajput power had declined. The two main reasons that led to the conquest of India by Mahmud Ghazni were -

- Firstly, to accumulate a vast amount of wealth that existed in India.
- Secondly, to spread the glory of Islam in India.
- Another reason was that he wanted to transform Ghazni, his capital city, into a region of formidable power in the entire Central Asia's political scenario.

### **Important Invasions:**

#### **1. Capture of frontier forts (1000 AD)**

- Mahmud of Ghazni for first time attacked modern Afghanistan and Pakistan in 1000 AD and captured a few forts and towns of Khyber. He appointed his own governors and went back.

#### **2. Victory over Jaipal of Hindushahi kingdom (1001 AD)**

- A fierce battle near Peshawar (1st Battle of Waihind) was fought in which the invaders became victorious. Mahmud got 2, 50,000 'dinars' and 50 elephants. Lane Poole, a British orientalist and archaeologist states, "Jaipal refused to survive this disgrace. Preferring death to dis-honour, he cast himself upon a funeral pyre."

#### **3. Attack on Bhera (Bhatia) in 1005 AD**

- The ruler Bijai Rai offered stiff resistance but was defeated. Finding himself helpless, the ruler committed suicide. Mahmud looted the kingdom and killed the people mercilessly.

#### **4. Attack on Multan (1006 AD)**

- Ghazni invaded Multan. During this time, Ananda Pala attacked him.

5. **Attack on Bhatinda (1007 AD)**
  - Mahmud of Ghazni attacked and crushed Sukha Pala, ruler of Bhatinda in 1007 AD.
6. **Conquest of Nagarkot-Kangra (1011 AD)**
  - Ghazni attacked Nagarkot in the Punjab hills in 1011 AD.
  - After his victory, Mahmud returned to Ghazni with such a vast collection of riches and jewels which “far exceeded the treasures of the mightiest king of the world.”
7. **2nd Battle of Waihind (1013 AD)**
  - Mahmud attacked the shahi kingdom under Anand Pala and defeated him in the 2nd Battle of Waihind. (Waihind was the Hind shahi capital near Peshawar in 1013 AD).
8. **Thanesar and Kashmir Expedition (1014-15 AD)**
  - Mahmud of Ghazni captured Thanesar in 1014 AD and attacked Kashmir in 1015 AD.
9. **Attack on Mathura (1018 AD)**
  - He attacked Mathura, where a number of coalition of rulers were defeated, including a ruler called Chandra Pala.
  - He looted and broke down all the idols and destroyed temples.
10. **Kannauj Invasion (1021 AD)**
  - Mahmud conquered Kannauj by defeating King Chandela Ganda. In the same year, he defeated and killed two more rulers, Shahi Trilochana Pala and his son Bhima Pala, thereby conquering Rahib and Lahore (modern Pakistan).
11. **Gwalior Invasion (1023 AD)**
  - Gwalior was invaded and conquered by Mahmud Ghazni in 1023 AD.
12. **Somnath Invasion (1025 AD)**
  - Mahmud attacked Somnath in 1025, and its ruler Bhima I fled. The next year, he captured Somnath and marched to Kutch against Bhima I.
  - In 1027, he attacked the Somnath temple. The brave Hindu Rajputs tried to defend the temple when the enemy tried to get inside it. The Hindus fought very bravely and initially the enemies could not damage the temple. However, after 3 days of fights, Mahmud Ghazni's troops were successful in plundering the Somnath temple, in which the sacred idol, Shivlinga was destroyed. Ghazni looted all the treasures of the temple.

#### Effects of these invasions:

- **Military weakness** - The 17 invasions of India undertaken by Ghazni, one after the other, revealed the Indian rulers' military weakness. These invasions also disclosed how the Rajput rulers had no political unity among themselves.
- **Proved Muslims superior** - These conquests proved that the Muslims were superior to Hindus in the field of war, discipline and duty.
- **Economic conditions worsened** - With Ghazni's invasions, the economic condition of India weakened as huge wealth was looted out of the country.
- **Depletion of resources** - The resources of India were drained out by his repeated conquests and India was deprived of her manpower, which also adversely affected the future political scenario of the country.
- **Setback to art and culture** - There was a huge setback to Indian arts, architecture and sculpture due to the demolition of idols and temples.
- **Spread of Islam** - Islam also gained a major foothold in India after the attacks.
- **Fear among Hindus** - The conquests also led to a growing hatred and fear among the Hindus. However, these conquests also led to the coming of the Sufis of the Muslim saints for more Hindu-Muslim interaction.

- **Weakening of frontiers** - Ghazni's conquests, especially the inclusion of Punjab and Afghanistan in his kingdom, made the Indian frontiers weak. This made easier for other Afghan and Turkish rulers to enter India into the Gangetic valley at any time. One special mention is of Muhammad Ghori's invasion of India.

#### MUHAMMAD GHORI (1173-1206 AD):

- The actual founder of the Muslim Empire in India was Muiz-ud-din Muhammad Ghori, also known as Muhammad of Ghur, Muhammad Ghori or Shihabud Din Muhammad Ghori.
- Though, it was the Muslim invader Muhammad bin Qasim (712 AD), who invaded India for the first time, followed by Mahmud of Ghazni, both of them could not create a Muslim empire in India in a true sense.
- Muhammad Ghori was an ambitious leader. He was the younger brother of the ruler of Gaur, Ghais-ud-Din, who handed the responsibility to Ghori to rule over Ghazni in 1173 AD.
- But Ghori, being a very ambitious ruler, was not satisfied with only Ghazni and wanted to expand his empire to get hold of more power and control and wanted to conquer India.

**Important invasions:** Historians say that there were 7 major invasions by Ghori against Indian subcontinent, in which he was the winner in most invasions. His invasions in India were:

1. **Conquest of Multan and Sindh, 1175-1178:** The first invasion of Muhammad Ghori was in 1175 AD when he attacked Multan, defeated the ruling Ismailian Heretics and was successful in capturing Multan. From Multan, he captured Uchch in Upper Sindh in 1178 AD and established a fort there. He also conquered Lower Sindh later in 1182 AD.
2. **Annihvara, Capital of Gujarat, 1178:** He also invaded Gujarat but suffered defeat from Gujarat ruler Bhimdev at the battle of Kayadara. This was his first invasion against a Hindu ruler in India and he had to go back to his kingdom.
3. **Conquest of Punjab and Lahore, 1179-1186:** Muhammad Ghori realised that the main place to conquer India was not Sindh and Multan but Punjab. In 1179 AD, he captured Peshawar. In 1181 AD, he attacked Khusrau Malik, who did not fight against him and gave him gifts as compensation. In 1185 AD, Ghori invaded Punjab once again and this time he looted the countryside and occupied the fort of Sialkot. Khusrau Malik took the help of Khokhars to take over Sialkot but was not successful. In 1186 AD Muhammad Ghori attacked Punjab once again and this time he besieged Lahore.
4. **The First Battle of Tarain, 1191:** In 1191, to conquer the whole of India, Ghori marched towards Delhi and he captured Sirhind. It was the Rajput King of Delhi and Ajmer, Prithvi Raj Chauhan, who put up a brave fight with his soldiers against Ghori in Tarain, a place near Karnal in the present Haryana state of India. In this first battle of Tarain, Ghori was badly injured and defeated and he had to retrace back his steps.
5. **The Second Battle of Tarain, 1192:** In 1192 AD, Muhammad Ghori invaded India again, this time he came with a huge army which also included the help of Turks, Afghans, Persians etc. In the second battlefield of Tarain, Prithvi Raj Chauhan could not restrain the strong army of Ghori. Muhammad Ghori defeated Prithvi Raj, he was captured and killed. Thus, Ghori was successful in capturing Delhi and Ajmer.
6. **Battle against Jai Chand Rathore in Kannauj, 1194 AD:** Jai Chand Rathor, the king of Kannauj was not in good terms with Prithviraj Chauhan and was happy when he was captured and killed. But, in 1194 AD, when Muhammad Ghori invaded India again, this time he attacked Kannauj and defeated Jai Chand Rathor, in the battlefield of Chandawar. After this invasion, Qutab-ud-Din Aibak became the viceroy of Muhammad Ghori. After this, while Ghori returned back to the west to carry out his conquests in the western frontiers, Qutab-ud-din Aibak continued his conquests in India.
7. **Conquests of Gujarat, Bundelkhand, Bengal and Bihar, 1195-1202 AD:** Qutab-ud-Din Aibak attacked Bhimdev, king of Gujarat. He was defeated at first, but in the next battle, he defeated Bhimdev and conquered

Gujarat. His next target was Bundelkhand, ruled by the Chandel Rajputs. He defeated them and conquered Bundelkhand. During this time, Muhammad Khilji, a slave of Muhammad Ghori attacked Bihar in 1197 and Bengal in 1202. Both Bengal and Bihar came under the control of Ghori, and Khilji became the viceroy of Bengal and Bihar.

8. **Revolt of Khokhars, 1205 AD:** In 1205, Ghori again came to India, and this time the Khokhars stood against him. But he defeated them. In 1206, when Ghori was going to Ghazni, he was killed in Dharmyak district of Jhelum (now in Pakistan) by the band of Khokhars.

#### **Implications of these invasions:**

- As already mentioned, his invasions laid the foundation of the Muslim rule in India. These Muslim conquests of India led to the end of the multi-state system in India.
- The invasions of India by the Muslims led to the beginning of the centralised political administration under the monarch, which was the political ideal of the Muhammad Ghori.
- During the invasions of India, trade received a new impetus as India got connected to the outer Asiatic world after the Ghori's invasions.
- For the first time, the invasions proved the weaknesses and in-capabilities of the Hindu rulers in protecting their territories from foreign conquests.
- Ghori's invasions led to the growth of a new dynasty known as the Slave Dynasty from 1206 AD onwards.
- The invasions also led to the spread of communalism and anti-religious feelings towards the non-Muslim religions.

#### **MONGOL INVASIONS:**

- The Mongol Empire launched several invasions into the Indian subcontinent from 1221 to 1327.
- As the Mongols progressed into the Indian hinterland and reached the outskirts of Delhi, the Delhi Sultanate led a campaign against them in which the Mongol army suffered serious defeats.

#### **Changes Khan (1206-1227 AD):**

- By the early 1200s, the Mongols, under their king Changes Khan (also called Genghis Khan), were conquering and uniting all of Asia. They conquered the Uighurs, the Kyrgyz, and the Khitan, and made them into one big empire stretching from Mongolia to Russia.
- In 1221 AD, that Mongol expansion reached India for the first time. But Genghis Khan, who left no territory unconquered, did not invade India. Genghis Khan had reached even neighbouring Afghanistan under the control of Shah Muhammad's son Jalal-ud-din, but he decided to turn back from there.
- One of the most astonishing and popular myth goes that the Mongols including Genghis Khan innately regarded India as sacrosanct and inviolable and he had not received favourable omens about attacking India.

#### **Invasion of Kashmir in 1235 AD:**

- Mongol force invaded Kashmir in 1235, stationing a Darughachi (administrative governor) there for several years, and Kashmir became a Mongolian dependency.
- Another Mongol general named Pakchak attacked Peshawar and defeated the army of tribes who had deserted Jalal-ud-Din but were still a threat to the Mongols. These men, mostly Khiljis, escaped to Multan and were recruited into the army of the Delhi Sultanate.
- In winter 1241 the Mongol forces invaded the Indus valley and besieged Lahore.

- The Kashmiris revolted in 1254-1255, and Mongke Khan, who became Great Khan in 1251, appointed his generals, Sali and Takudar, to replace the court and appointed the Buddhist master, Otochi, as darugachi of Kashmir. However, the Kashmiri king killed Otochi at Srinagar.
- Sali invaded Kashmir, killing the king, and put down the rebellion, after which the country remained subject to the Mongol Empire for many years.

**Invasion in 1292 AD:**

- The Mongols, under the command of a grandson of Hulagu, Abdullah attacked Punjab under the reign of Jalal-ud-Din Khilji.
- The Sultan succeeded in defeating an advance guard of the Mongols and in capturing some of their officers. But, he dared not face the main army of the Mongols made peace successfully.
- In the negotiations, Ulughu, a descendant of Chengiz Khan accepted Islam with his four thousand followers and decided to stay in India. They were called 'New Muslims' and settled in the suburbs of Delhi.

**Invasion in 1297-98 AD:**

- This Mongol invasion took place in 1297-98 AD, only a short time after Ala-ud-din's accession on the throne. Dava Khan, ruler of Transoxiana, sent an army of one lakh Mongols under the command of Kadar to attack India.
- Ala-ud-din sent an army under Jafar Khan and Ulugh Khan which defeated the Mongols near Jullundhar with great slaughter. Nearly 20,000 Mongols were killed in the battle.

**Invasion in 1298-99 AD:**

- In 1299 A.D. the Mongols attacked again under the command of Saldi, brother of Dava Khan. They captured Sehwan.
- Ala-ud-din sent Zafar Khan against the Mongols who recovered Sehwan from them and imprisoned a large number of Mongols including Saldi and his brother.

**Invasion in 1299 AD:**

- Towards the close of 1299 A.D., Dava Khan sent a strong army of 2,00,000 horses under the command of his son, Qutlugh Khwaja to avenge the disgrace and death of Saldi.
- This time the Mongols did not mean plunder but conquest. They avoided fighting in the way until they reached the neighbourhood of Delhi.
- Ala-ud-din, on his part, decided to give them a battle even against the counsel of his friend, Ala-ul-Mulk who advised him to wait and avoid the risk of an open battle.
- The battle took place on the plain of Kili near Delhi. It was won over by Ala-ud-din, primarily, because of the valour of Zafar Khan.

**Invasion in 1303 AD:**

- The next Mongol invasion took place only after some months of Ala-ud-din's return from Chittor in 1303 AD. The Mongols under the command of Targhi moved so swiftly that provincial governors could not get time to reach Delhi to help the Sultan.
- Ala-ud-din's army at Delhi was insufficient and weak after its tough battle at Chittor. Therefore, Ala-ud-din was not in a position to face the Mongols in an open battle. He retired to the fort of Siri and took up a defensive position.



- The invasion of Targhi awakened Ala-ud-din to the necessity of frontier defence. He made Siri his capital, strengthened its fortifications, repaired the fort of Delhi and those in the North-West, constructed some new ones there, kept standing armies in them, kept a separate and permanent army for the defence of the North-West, appointed a separate governor for the same and increased the number and efficiency of his army.

**Invasion in 1305 AD:**

- In 1305 A.D., the Mongols attacked again under the command of Ali Beg and Tartaq. Targhi also joined them in the way. The strong army of Mongols could reach up to Amroha where it met the army of Ala-ud-din under the command of Malik Kafur and Ghazi Malik.
- The Mongols were completely defeated on 30 December 1305 A.D. Targhi had died earlier in a battle and now Ali Beg and Tartaq were taken captives and were brought to Delhi and killed.

**Last phase of Mongol Attacks:**

- The Mongols made some feeble attempts to plunder India even after the reign of Ala-ud-din. One such attempt was made during the reign of Sultan Ghayas-ud-din Tughlaq in 1324 A.D.
- During the reign of Sultan Muhammad Tughluq, the Mongols attacked only once. The Chaghatai Chief, Ala-ud-din Tarmashirin of Transoxiana attacked India in 1327 A.D.
- According to Isami, the Mongols were defeated by the army of the Sultan near Meerut and forced to retreat.
- The Sultan, however, took preventive measures to safeguard his north-west frontier after the return of the Mongols. According to Isami, the Sultan occupied Peshawar and Kalanore in Punjab and made the arrangements for their defence.
- Afterwards, during the second half of the 14th century, the Sultanate of Delhi remained free from the menace of the Mongols. However, in 1398 Taimur invaded India successfully and captured Delhi. He did not undertake any conquest within India as his primary aim was to amass wealth to capture holy land of Macca. But in the ensuing chaos, the Tughlaq dynasty lost the throne to the Sayid dynasty in 1411.

### 3. DELHI SULTANATE

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#### **Introduction:**

- The sultanate is that period of Indian History when the throne of India i.e. Delhi was under the hands of Sultans who had origins from modern-day Turkmenistan and Afghanistan (both belonging to Central Asia).
- The Islamic invasion had started in India from 7th century AD itself. However, in 1206 the Commander of Muhammad of Ghori named Qutub Ud Din Aibak established the slave dynasty in India after the death of Ghori. This is considered as the true beginning of the Sultanate in India.
- Historians say that there were 7 major invasions by Ghori i.e., conquest of Multan and Sindh (1175-78), Annihvara in Gujarat (1178), conquest of Punjab and Lahore (1179-86), first and second battle of Tarain (1191 and 1192), Battle of Kannauj against Jai Chandra Rathor (1194), conquest of Gujarat, Bundelkhand, Bihar and Bengal (1195-1202), revolt of Khokhars (1205).
- In the first Battle of Tarain in 1191, Prithviraj Chauhan defeated Muhammad Ghori but in the Second Battle of Tarain in 1192, Ghori defeated Prithviraj and slained him treacherously.
- Jayachandra the ruler of Kannauj and Muhammad fought a battle at Chandawar in 1194. Rajputs were defeated and Jaychandra was killed in the war. Muhammad proceeded as far as Banaras and captured all the important places of the kingdom of Kannauj. The battle of Chandawar laid the foundation of Turkish rule in northern India.
- As Muhammad Ghori had no son, his Indian empire passed onto his viceroy, Qutub-Ud-Din Aibak, upon his death in 1206. The Sultanate which he established had an everlasting impact on Indian social-political as well as the economic sphere in subsequent times.
- Sultanate of Delhi had 5 ruling dynasties-
  - The Ilbari or Slave (1206-1290)
  - The Khilji (1290-1320)
  - The Tughlaq (1320-1413)
  - The Sayyid (1414-1451)
  - The Lodhis (1451-1526)
- In this chapter, we will study these dynasties elaborately to understand the impact of the sultanate on India as a nation.

### Ilbari Dynasty or Slave Dynasty (1206-1290)

- According to Chronicles, it is called the slave dynasty because all the Muslim rulers who ruled over India from 1206-1290 were either slaves themselves or were descendants of the slave rulers.
- It is also called 'the Ilbari' because all the rulers of this dynasty, except Qutubuddin Aibak, belonged to the Ilbari tribe of Turks.

#### 1. Qutub-Ud-Din Aibak (1206-1210 AD)

- After the death of Ghori, he was crowned at Lahore. He did not make any fresh conquest and ruled from Lahore.
- He was famous for his generosity and earned the sobriquet of Lakh-Baksh (giver of Lakhs).
- He laid the foundation of Qutub Minar in Delhi after the name of famous Sufi saint Khwaja Qutubuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki, which was completed by Iltutmish.
- He patronized Hasan Nizami, who wrote the first official history of Delhi Sultanate 'Taj Ul *Maasir*'.
- In 1210, he died of a sudden fall from a horse at Lahore, while playing chaughan (modern-day version of polo).

#### 2. Aram Shah (1210-1211 AD)

- When Aibak died all of a sudden, amirs and nobles of Lahore put Aram Shah on the throne. However, he was weak and worthless and was rejected by the people of Delhi.
- The exact nature of the relationship of Aram Bakhsh with Qutb-ud-din is not known. According to one school of thought, he was his son. According to Abul Fazal, Aram Shah was Sultan's brother.
- The nobles and amirs invited Qutb-ud-din Aibak's son-in-law Iltutmish who was the governor of Badaun (in Uttar Pradesh) at that time, to defeat Aram Shah and acquire the throne.

#### 3. Iltutmish (1211-1235 AD)

- He was the greatest of the slave rulers of Delhi and he shifted his **capital from Lahore to Delhi**.
- Iltutmish was the real founder of Delhi Sultanate. It was he who gave it a capital (Delhi), a sovereign state, monarchical form of government, a currency and a governing body or nobility, known as ***Turkan-i- Chahalgani* or *Chalisa*** (a group of forty) which was the ruling elite of the period. It was not exactly 40 in number but still, it was called *Turkan-i- Chahalgani* by later historian Isami
- He divided his empire into ***iqtas***, an assignment of land in lieu of salary, which he distributed to his officers.
  - Iqta was an Islamic practice of tax farming that became common in Iran during the period of the Buyid dynasty. In layman's term, it was a piece of land given to military personnel in lieu of their services to the Sultan.
  - The Iqta holder was called Iqtadar who had a responsibility to maintain law and order and collect revenue.
  - After deducting his salary and the expenses of the government, he sent the surplus revenue to the central government.
  - Iqta was transferrable initially as Sultan had the right to transfer Iqtadar. However, during the time of Firuz Tughlaq (1551-1588) Iqta was made hereditary.
- He introduced **Silver Tanka and Copper Jital**- two basic coins of the Sultanate period. He laid the foundation of the medieval administrative institution, which grew during the reign of his successors.

#### 4. Razia Sultan (1236-1240 AD)

- Before ascending to the throne of Delhi after her father's death, the reign was briefly handed over to her half-brother Rukn ud-din Firuz. But after Firuz's assassination within 6 months of his ascendancy, the nobles agreed to place Razia on the throne.
- She was the **first and only Muslim woman to rule** over Delhi.
- Razia appointed an Abyssinian Slave, **Jamal-ud-din Yakut as Amir-e-Ankhar** (superintendent of horses). Raziya was able to keep the Turkish Nobles in check but her preference for the Abyssinian Yakut roused the jealousy among the dominant Turks.
  - Turko-Afghan Nobles were not able to endure an Abyssinian sitting over them side by side women.
  - They rose in rebellion and were joined by Malik Altunia, the Governor of Bhatinda and Yakut was killed and Raziya was taken prisoner.
  - To protect her reputation, Razia sensibly decided to marry Altunia, the administrative head of Bhatinda and strolled towards Delhi with her mate.
- She was reportedly killed by her brother Muizzuddin Bahram Shah's forces, while she was returning to Delhi after her marriage.

#### 5. Balban (1246-1287 AD)

- The 9th sultan of Ilbari tribe **Baba Ud Din aka Ghiyas Ud Din Balban** was a slave of Ilutmish and belonged to the Illabari tribe of the Turks. Initially he got the menial jobs but later on, he progressed in his career by becoming first the chief huntsman of Raziya.
- Balban was a member of Chihalgani and succeeded in capturing power in 1246 when he was appointed as **Naib (i.e. deputy)** to the Sultan Nasir Ud Din Mahmud (1246-1266). The Sultan was a religious man and did not interfere in the day to day administration thereby leaving power in the hand of Balban. After Nasir's death in 1266, Balban declared himself the Sultan as the former did not have any male heirs.
- The foremost objective of Balban was to restore the prestige of the crown. For this, he started the Iranian practice of **Sijdah or Zaminbosi and Paibos** to the sultan. Under this, the people had to kneel down and touch the ground with their heads while greeting the Sultan.
- He propagated the Iranian theory of Divine Rights which said that the Sultan was the representative of God on Earth. He called himself **Zil- i- Illahi** or the shadow of God on the earth and **Nasir-Amir-Ul-Momin** or Caliph's right-hand man.
- Balban ruled the empire with an iron hand which included crushing the Mewatis and disciplining the officers. He also reorganized the army and overtook the powers of Chihalgani (Corp of Forty nobles).
- He suppressed the revolt of Tughril Khan in Bengal and Bengal's affairs were now given to Balban's second son Bugara Khan who also revolted later on. Henceforth the question of Bengal started to hound each and every subsequent Sultan.
- To control the onslaught of the Mongols, he founded the new department for military affairs called **Diwan-i- Arz**. The in-charge of Diwan-i-arz was Ariz-i-Mumalik.
- He instructed the Ulemas to confine themselves to the religious affairs only.
- He carried military and civil reforms in administration which earned him the position of the greatest Sultanate ruler along with Ilutmish and Alauddin Khilji.
- He introduced the Persian festival of **Navroz** in India.

- After Balban's death, the affairs to the government fell into disorder and **Jalal-ud-din Khilji**, the **Ariz-i-Mumalik (Minister of war)** gathered all powers into his hands. Balban was succeeded by his grandson Kaikubad who was not competent enough to maintain the empire intact.
- Jalal Ud Dun Khilji killed the sultan and assumed power thereby ending the rule of Ilbaris came to an end in 1290 AD.

### Khilji Dynasty (1290-1320 AD)

#### 1. Jalal-ud-din Khilji (1290-1296 AD)

- He was also called as "Clemency Jalal-uddin" as he followed peace and wanted to rule without violence. According to Barani, he believed in the policy of 'not harming even an ant'.
- He suppressed Malik Chhajju, a nephew of Balban's, revolt at Kara but later pardoned him and posted him at Manikpur.
- Jalaluddin was obsessed with mercy. He pardoned all kinds of criminals like thugs, traitors, conspirators, etc.
- In his time, Mongols attacked once more but this time (under Halaku), negotiations caused the "partial" retreat of the Mongols and not the open war.
- The most important event of his reign was an invasion of Devagiri, the capital of the Yadava king, Raja Ramachandradeva, in the Deccan by his nephew and Son-in-Law Ala-ud-din. Soon after his return Alauddin killed his uncle Jalaluddin to assume power in 1296.

#### 2. Ala-ud-din Khilji (1296-1316 AD)

- Born as **Ali Gurshap**, Alauddin is considered as one of the greatest kings of India throughout history. Under his reign, the territorial reach of the Sultanate reached as far as Madurai in the south. His administrative and military reforms laid the foundation for the subsequent reforms in the Indian administrative system.
- Ala-ud-din successfully resisted the Mongol invasion more than 12 times.
- Ala-ud-din Khilji's generals namely, **Ulugh Khan and Nusrat Khan conquered Gujarat in 1299**. He also captured Malwa, Chittor, Dhar, Mandu, Ujjain, Marwar, Chanderi and Jalore.
- In 1300, he captured Ranthambhore which was ruled by Hamirdeva. Women committed '**Jauhar**' which was described by Amir Khusrau in *Khaza'in ul-Futuh*. It was the first Persian description of Jauhar.
- In 1303, Chittor under Ratan Singh was captured by Khizr Khan who was made the governor of Chittor. **Malik Mohammad Jaysi wrote Padamavat** according to which Alauddin was infatuated with **Rani Padmini**, the queen of Ratan Singh.
- He was the first Sultan who attacked South India. He sent his confidante and general **Malik Kafur** against the rulers of the south. Amir Khusrau's *Khazain-ul-Futuh* describes Kafur's expeditions.
- Malik Kafur attacked Devagir in 1306 and its Yadava ruler Ramachandra was made an ally. Devagir was made the base for further expansion in the South. Next, Warangal ruler Pratap Rudradeva was defeated in 1310 and the famous Kohinoor diamond was obtained.
- Alauddin adopted the title '**Sikandar-i-Sani**' (second Alexander) and inscribed the same in his coins.
- Alauddin centralised his administration and introduced many reforms.

**Market reforms:** His market reforms are of special importance.

- He fixed the prices of necessary commodities which were below the normal market rates. He strictly prohibited black marketing.
- Introduced 4 markets in Delhi viz.

- For Grains
  - For clothes, sugar, dry fruits, oil & butter
  - For horses, slaves & cattle
  - For miscellaneous commodities
- Officers called **Diwan-i-riyasat** were appointed in the offices called Shahana-i-mandi to standardize the market.
  - Secret agents “**Munhiyans**” were appointed to report the functioning of these markets to the sultan.
  - Merchants should have to register themselves in the office (Shahana-i-mandi) before selling their goods at the fixed rates.

#### **Military reforms:**

- **Barids** (news reporters) and **Munhis** (spies) were appointed to strengthen the spy system.
- He started the system of branding of horses (**Dagh system**) and a descriptive roster of individual soldiers to inhibit corruption (**Chehera system**).
- He banned social parties and wine.

#### **Agrarian reforms:**

- Alauddin abolished almost all small Iqtas and brought these lands under Khalisa or Crown lands. He abolished Zamindari in Khalisa land and no iqta was allotted in the doab area. In the Khalsa lands, the revenue was collected directly by the state.
- The Sultan deprived the Khuts, Maqaddams, and Chaudhari of their privileges. These people were acting as local revenue collectors and according to Barani were responsible for corruption in the administration. They were forced to pay arrears of land revenue in a newly established department of arrears called **Mustkharaj**.
- Alauddin was the first sultan to collect land revenue based on the measurement of cultivable land (**paimaish**) and **Biswa** was unit of measurement.
- Revenue was collected in cash and not in kind.

#### **3. Mubarak Shah (1316-1320 AD):**

- Alauddin died in 1316 due to prolonged illness. After his death, the power was assumed by his Commander Malik Kafur but he could rule only for few days and was killed in court intrigue.
- The power was now assumed by Mubarak Shah. He was the elder son of Alauddin and he declared himself the Khalifa and took the title of ‘Al-Wasiq-Billah’.
- He was killed and succeeded by Nasiruddin Khusrau Shah.

#### **4. Nasiruddin Khusrau Shah (1320 AD):**

- He was a Hindu convert and it is said that when he became an independent ruler, he tried to re-establish the Hindu regime.
- He was defeated and killed in court intrigues. Thereafter, Ghazi Malik, a provincial legislative leader of Dinapur ascended the throne as Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq in 1320 AD.

## Tughlaq Dynasty (1320-1413 AD)

### 1. Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq (1320-1325AD):

- Ghiyas-ud-din reinstated order in his empire. He brought Bengal, Utkala or Orissa, and Warangal under his control.
- He gave more importance to postal arrangements, judicial, irrigation, agriculture, and police. He was the first sultan to start irrigation works.
- The Mongol leaders who invaded North India were seized and confined by him.
- In 1325 AD, Ghiyas-ud-din was crushed to death while attending an event for his victories in Bengal. According to historians, Ibn battuta and Isami, it was a conspiracy by his son Jauna Khan (later Muhammad Bin Tughlaq) to kill him.

### 2. Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq (1325-1351 AD):

- In 1325 AD Jauna Khan, the crown prince swore the title Muhammad-bin- Tughlaq. The Delhi Sultanate reached its **territorial zenith** under his reign.
- Moroccan traveler Ibn Battuta visited India during his reign and was appointed to the post of quazi (judge) by Tughlaq due to his extensive knowledge of the Quran.
- Muhammad Bin Tughlaq was called the 'wisest fool' by historian Isami because he undertook numerous administrative reforms and most of them failed due to the lack of plan and judgement.
- Contemporary historian Ziyauddin Barani mentions his five experiments:
  - **Shift of Capital:** He wanted to make Devagiri (also known as Deogir) his **second capital** so that he might be able to control South India better. In 1327, he ordered the common people and government officials to shift to Devagiri but after many difficulties, he ordered them to return to Delhi.
  - **Introduction of token currency:** He issued copper coins at par with the value of the silver *tanka* coins. The goldsmiths began to forge the token coins on a large scale. Soon the new coins were not accepted in the markets and the value of coins dropped; hence he had to withdraw the copper token currency.
  - **Military campaigns:** To conquer Persia (Khurasan Expedition), and to invade China (Quarachil Expedition to the Kullu-Kangra region in present Himachal Pradesh) he maintained long-standing army which finished his finances. His idea of invading China met with a disaster in the passes of the Himalayas where men and money got split like water. Due to financial burden, he abandoned his plans and this disgusted his soldiers who started plundering their own country.
  - **Taxation in Doab:** In order to overcome financial difficulties, he increased the tax on the alluvial lands between the Ganga and the Yamuna valley. He raised taxes in the Doab region when a terrible famine was prevailing in the doab and people suffered its disastrous effects.
  - **Agrarian reforms:** He instituted agricultural reforms by setting up a separate department of agriculture called '**Diwan-i-Kohi**'. He encouraged farmers to grow superior crops and gave them **sondhar and taccavi** loans for cultivation.
- These projects led to a revolt in many parts of the country which led to the independence of Madurai and Warangal and the foundation of Vijaynagara and Bahamani kingdoms.
- He died in Thatta while battling in Sindh against Taghi, a Turkish slave.

### 3. Firoz Shah Tughlaq (1351-1388 AD):

- After his accession, Firoz Tughlaq faced the problem of preventing the imminent break up of Delhi Sultanate. He adopted the **policy to appease** the nobility, the army, and the ordinary people.
- He reformed the penal system by abolishing cruel punishments like cutting off limbs etc.
- The only non-Islamic tax levied was **Haq-e-Shab** (irrigation tax) for irrigation works he had provided and he was the first one to impose Jizya on Brahmans.
- He desecrated Jwalamukhi Temple during his Nagarkot campaign. Nearly 1300 manuscripts from the temple were translated from Sanskrit to Persian under the title **Dalail-e-Firoz-Shahi**. He was the first sultan to get Hindu religious works translated into Persian.
- He collected four important taxes which are:
  - **Kharaj**- 10% of the produce of the land
  - **Khams**- 1/5 of the war booty
  - **Jizya**- on non-muslims
  - **Zakat**- Tax on Muslims for specific religious purposes
- He established a new department called '**Diwan-e-Khairat**' to help the poor and needy.
  - Free hospitals were set up for the poor.
  - One such hospital was called '**Dara-ul-Safa**' was established in Delhi where free medicines and food was supplied to the patients.
- He also established '**Diwan-e-Bandagan**' i.e. Department of slaves. He established 36 karkhanas i.e. royal workshops. He also established Diwan-i-Ishtiaq to give pensions to the poor.
- He constructed towns like Firozabad, Hissar, Jaunpur, and Fatehabad.
- Firoz extended the **principle of heredity** to the army. Soldiers were allowed to rest and to send their sons. The soldiers were not paid in cash but by assignments on land revenue of villages. **Iqta was made hereditary by him.**
- He introduced two new coins **Adha and Bikh**. Other coins prevalent during his reign were **Shashgani and Hastagani**.
- He wrote his autobiography **Futuhat-i-Firoz Shahi** in Persian that consisted of around 32 pages.
- He died in 1388 and the Tughlaq dynasty could not continue much after his death.
- **Timur's Invasion (1398 AD)**
  - The fabulous wealth of India attracted Timur the ruler of Samarqand.
  - During the period of Nasir-ud-din Mohammed Tughlaq, he invaded India.
  - In 1398 A.D. Timur captured Delhi and caused the annihilation of the Tughlaq dynasty by pillaging and slaughtering people.

### Syed Dynasty (1414-1451AD)

- On Mahmud Tughlaq's death (the last Tughlaq), Khizr Khan, governor of Multan (appointed by Timur) established himself at the throne of Delhi in 1414 AD.
- He took the title of **Raiyat-e-Ala**. He claimed to be a descendant from Prophet, so the dynasty found by him is known as Syed Dynasty.
- The dynasty could not sustain for long and was soon replaced by a new Afghan dynasty of Lodhis.

### Lodhi Dynasty (1451-1526 AD)

#### 1. Bahlul Lodhi (1451-1489 AD)

- Bahlul Lodi was the founder of the Lodi Dynasty.



- Bahlul Lodi was a wise ruler and followed the **Afghan tradition of equality** as he never sat on the throne and he used to sit on the carpet in front of the throne with his nobles to gain their recognition and support.
- In 1479, Sultan Bahlul Lodi defeated and annexed the **Sharqi dynasty** under Hussain Shah based at Jaunpur (Uttar Pradesh). The **Jaunpur Sultanate** was an independent kingdom of northern India between 1394 and 1479. In 1394, Khwajah-i-Jahan Malik Sarwar established himself as an independent ruler of Jaunpur and extended his authority over Awadh and a large part of Ganges-Yamuna doab.

## 2. Sikandar Lodhi (1489-1517 AD)

- He was the son of Bahlul Lodi and his real name was Nizam Khan. He swore the title Sikandar Shah and ascended the throne.
- He conquered the states of Dholpur, Bidar, Gwalior, Chanderi and other nearby kingdoms.
- He destroyed many Hindu temples and put several restrictions on Hindus.
- A proficient arrangement of secret activities was kept up to keep a strict watch over the governors, nobles and different uncivilized components of the state.
- He encouraged education particularly among children of Afghan nobles so as to make them cultured. He made mosques as centres of education.
- He introduced a new measurement yard called '**Gaz-e-Sikandari**' for revenue assessment.
- To deal with Rajputs effectively, he built a **new capital at Agra in 1505 AD** and carried on from there campaign against Raja Man Singh on Gwalior.
- Sikandar tried to check certain customs which he considered bad in Islam.
  - He forbade the visit of Muslim women to the shrines of saints.
  - He prohibited the procession of '**Tazias**' at the festival of Muharram. It is a Muslim ritual that reenacts the death of Hussein, the prophet Muhammad's grandson.
- Sikandar Shah enjoyed "**Shehnai**" Music. A work on music named "**Lahjat-i-Sikandar Shahi**" was created during his reign.
- He encouraged agriculture and made the road safe for travel.
- He himself wrote Persian verses under the pen name of '**Gulrukhi**'.

## 3. Ibrahim Lodhi (1517-1526 AD)

- The ruler of Gwalior had given shelter to Jalal Khan, brother of Ibrahim. Therefore, Ibrahim attacked and annexed Gwalior to his kingdom.
- He was **defeated by Rana Sanga of Mewar in 1518 in the Battle of Khatoli**.
- One of his noblemen-Daulat Khan, the governor of Punjab invited Babur, the ruler of Kabul to invade India and take revenge on their behalf.
- Ibrahim was defeated by Babur in the **first battle of Panipat on 21st April 1526 AD**. Babur occupied Delhi & Agra and led the foundation of the Mughal Empire in India.

### ADMINISTRATION UNDER SULTANATE:

#### 1. SULTANS:

- Sultans declared themselves as '**lieutenant of faithful**' (**Yamin-ul-Khalifa**).
- The Sultan was the absolute master of the state and all legislative, executive and judicial powers were concentrated in him. He was also the **commander in chief** of the army.

- There was **no law of succession** during the period of the Sultanate. It was not necessary that the eldest son or the daughter of the Sultan should succeed the father which promoted factionalism and warfare after the death of the Sultan.

## 2. CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION:

- **Diwan-i-Wizarat** - was headed by the Prime Minister of the state (Wazir) and enjoyed authority over the **financial department**.
  - The wazir was assisted by the **Mushrif-i-Mamalik**, (accountant) who maintained a record of the accounts and the **Mustauf-i-Mamalik** (auditor) who audited these accounts.
  - Khan-i-Jahan Maqbul Tilangani rose to become the Wazir of the Delhi Sultanate under Firuz Shah Tughluq.
  - **Wazir-i-tafwiz** had unlimited powers except to appoint his successor and **wazir-i-tanfiz** merely carried out the wishes of the ruler.
  - During Alauddin Khilji's reign, Nusrat Khan was wazir but when he died post was given to Malik Kafur.
- **Diwan -i- Arz** – department of the military was created by Balban and in that capacity, Ariz-i-Mamalik was the controller-general of the military department.
  - Ahmad Ayaz Rawat-i-Arz was appointed as Ariz-i-Mamalik by Balban and held this post for thirty years.
  - The cavalrymen of the army were of two kinds: the **Sawar** (having one horse) and **do-aspe** (having two horses).
- **Diwan -i- Risalat** - During the reign of Alauddin Khilji, this department was renamed or replaced by the department called **Diwan-i-riyasat** whose primary function was to implement the economic regulations issued by the Sultan and control the markets and prices.
  - Under Firoz Shah Tughlaq this acted as a department of public grievances.
  - Thus Diwan -i- Risalat had **different functions under different rulers**, but basic function of giving stipends and revenue-free lands to needy seems to have continued all the time.
- **Sadr -Ur -Sadar** - was the head of the charity works and religious department. His work was to safeguard the Islamic Laws and its upkeep.
- **Amir -i-Mazls -Shahi** - he was the minister who looked after the festivals of the state, and made sure all the public conveniences and arrangements during festive seasons.
- **Diwan-I-Insha**- headed by Dabir-i-Khas, was the minister who looked after the royal correspondence of different offices.
- **Barid-i -Khas**- He was the head of the intelligence and postal department.
- **Amir-I-Dad**- functioned as the supreme judge throughout the Muslim rule in the absence of the Sultan.
- **Wakil-i-dar**- supervised and controlled royal household.
- **Diwan-i-amirat**-department of public works setup by Firoz Shah Tughlaq under Malik Ghazi who was called Mir-i-Imarat.

## 3. PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION:

- Barani mentions 20 provinces excluding south but provinces in a real sense began only under Muhammad bin Tughlaq.
- The empire was divided into a number of Iqtas administered by Iqtadars. Iqtas further were divided into smaller units called Parganas, Shiqqs, and the villages. During the Khilji period, walis or muqtis

were commanders of iqtas and they were required to send a balance of the income (fawazil), after meeting his and his army's expenses, to the centre.

- The iqtas were transferable in the initial period i.e., iqtadars-were transferred from one region to another every three to four years. It means that the grant of iqta did not imply a right to the land ownership. However, they were made hereditary by Firuz Shah Tughlaq.
- The head of the Iqta was addressed by various names such as naib Sultan, Nazim, Muqti or Walis. The walis or the muqtis enjoyed the same powers in relation to their Iqtas as the Sultan enjoyed in the Empire.
- The khuts were the zamindars of one or more villages and muqaddam was the village headman.

### **ECONOMY & COMMERCE:**

- According to Ibn Batuta, a traveler who came from North Africa in India during the fourteenth century, agriculture was in a state of great progress. The soil was so fertile that it produced two crops every year; rice being sown three times a year.
- The currency system was based on Silver tankas and Copper Jitals. 1 Tanka = 48 Jitals.
- The new crafts introduced by Turks were manufacturing of paper and spinning wheel.
- The main items of India's exports were: cereals, cotton and silk cloth, opium, indigo, sea-pearls, sandalwood, saffron, ginger, sugar, and coconut, etc. India imported horses, salt, rosewater, colour velvets, perfumes, wines, etc.
- Goa, Diu, Chaula, Cochin and Quilon were the important ports on the western Sea-coast of India.
- The means of travel with Sarais at the distance of 5 kms on the principal highways were present at that time. This gave people a sense of security.
- Road cesses or Rahdari was declared illegal, though it continued to be collected by some of the local rajas and this was used to maintain good roads.

### **SOCIETY:**

- During the Sultanate period, the Muslim nobles who were mostly of foreign origin stood at the apex of the social system.
- Indian Muslims were deprived of enjoying social and economic privileges like they were not given a share in the work of administration.
- Both the Hindu and Muslims used to keep slaves. There were slave markets. The sultans provided them with proper education and training so that a good number of slaves rose to eminence. Firuz even had Diwan I Bandagan i.e. department of slaves which hired them to work in royal karkhanas.
- The practice of polygamy was prevalent among the rich and Sati system was in practice among the Hindus.
- Muslim women strictly observed the purdah system. They were also deprived of education.
- There was a rigid caste system. Intercaste marriages and dining got totally prohibited. Hindus and Muslims influenced each other's customs and traditions.

### **LITERATURE:**

- During this time, many Muslim scholars from Persia and Central Asia fled away from there because of the Mongols and found shelter at the courts of Sultan Balban and Ala-ud- din Khalji. Each of them participated in the enrichment of Persian literature.
- The Sultans of Delhi were interested in the progress of Persian literature as they were Persian speaking people. Many Sanskrit works were translated into Arabic and Urdu language during this period.

- **Alberuni** - He was well-versed in Persian and also studied Sanskrit. 'Tarikh-ul-Hind'. (11th century AD) by Al-Beruni who accompanied Mahmud Ghazni provides valuable account regarding the affairs of India in the 11th century.
- **'Rajtarangini'** (11th century) by Kalhan dealing with the history of Kashmir.
- **Prithvi Raj Raso** (11th century) in Hindi by Chandbardai, the court poet of Prithviraj Chauhan, describing his exploits.
- **'Taj-ul-Maasir'** (13th century), the first official history of the Delhi Sultanate by Hasan Nizami in Persian dealt with the events of the Slave Dynasty. The book begins with the Second Battle of Tarain in which the Ghurids defeated the Hindu king Prithviraj Chauhan of Delhi and Ajmer.
- **Amir Khusrau** (1252-1325) was the famous Persian writer of this period. He wrote a number of poems. He experimented with several poetical forms and created a new style of Persian poetry called **Sabaq-i-Hind** or the Indian style. He also wrote some Hindi verses.
  - Amir Khusrau's **Khazain-ul-Futuh** (The Treasures of Victories, 1296) speaks about Alauddin's conquests and Malik Kafur's conquests in South.
  - His famous work **Tughlaq Nama** written in 1320 deals with the rise of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq.
  - His understanding of an ideal nation is most succinct in **Nur Sipihr** (Nine Skies, 1318), celebrates the magic of Hind (India) as paradise on earth and glorifies it.
  - His other works are: **Ghurrat ul-Kamaal** (The Prime of Perfection), 1294 - poems composed by Khusrow between the ages of 34 and 41, **Afzal ul-Fawaid** (Greatest of Blessings), 1319 - a work of prose containing the teachings of Nizamuddin Auliya, **Qissa Chahar Dervesh** (The Tale of the Four Dervishes) - a *dastan* told by Khusro to Nizamuddin Auliya.
- **'Tarikh-Firoz Shahi'** (14th century) by **Zia-ud-Barani** gives information about the period from the reign of Ghiyas ud din Balban to the first six years of the reign of Firoz Shah Tughlaq.
  - **Fatwa-i-Jahandari** is a work containing the political ideals to be pursued by a Muslim ruler in order to earn religious merit and the gratitude of his subjects.
  - His other works are **Salvat-i-Kabir** (The Great Prayer), **Sana-i-Muhammadi** (Praises of Prophet Mohammad), **Hasratnama** (Book of Regrets).
- **Zia Nakhshabi** was the first to translate Sanskrit work into Persian.
  - During the reign of Mohammad Bin Tughlaq around 1335 AD, his **Tutinama** (Book of the Parrot) was the first Persian translation of Sanskrit work.
  - It is said that the text of the Tutinama was written in Nastaliq calligraphy style.
- **'Kitab-ur-Rehlah'** (15th century) by **Ibn Batuta** dealing with the Lodhi Dynasty. He was a Muslim Berber Moroccan scholar, and explorer who widely traveled the medieval world.
  - Near the end of his life, he dictated an account of his journeys, titled *A Gift to Those Who Contemplate the Wonders of Cities and the Marvels of Traveling.*
- The Hindu rulers, particularly those of Gujarat, Warangal and the Vijayanagara empire, provided encouragement to Sanskrit literature.
- Bengali literature had also developed and **Nusrat Shah** patronized the translation of **Mahabharata** into Bengali.

#### MUSIC:

- New musical instruments such as *sarangi* and *rabab* were introduced during this period.
- Amir Khusrau introduced many new ragas such as *aiman*, *ghora*, and *sanam*.
  - He evolved a new style of light music known as *qawwali* by blending the Hindu and Iranian systems.
  - The invention of *sitar* and *tabla* was also attributed to him.

- In his historical poem, '**Ashiq**' he describes the tragic love story of Khizr Khan, son of Alauddin Khilji and Dewal Devi, a Vaghela Rajput princess of Gujarat.
- Amir Khusrau was given the title of **Tuti-e-Hind (Parrot of India)** by **Nizamuddin Auliya**.
- The Indian classical work **Ragadarpan** was translated into Persian during the reign of Firoz Shah Tughlaq.
- Raja Mansingh of Gwalior was a great lover of music. He encouraged the composition of a great musical work called **Man Kautuhal** which included all the new musical notes introduced by Muslims.
- **Nayak Gopal of Devagiri** (now Daulatabad) established a distinct music system in Delhi that later came to be known as the Nauhar Bani. He composed 'Geeti' and presented it in a concert in the court of Alauddin Khilji. Amir Khusro was immensely pleased with his melodious voice and high standard of singing. Khusro learned Hindustani Sangeet from him. Nayak created the '**Kadamb Raga**' and '**Kuduk Taal**'.

### ART & ARCHITECTURE:

- The art and architecture of the Delhi Sultanate period were distinct from the Indian style.
  - The Turks introduced arches, domes, lofty towers or minarets and decorations using the Arabic script. They used the skill of the Indian stone cutters. They also added colour to their buildings by using marbles, red and yellow sandstones.
  - While the Hindus decorated their buildings with images of different gods and goddesses, the Muslims decorated them with parallel, rectangular, square or triangular lines, or teachings of Koran inscribed mostly in Persian script.
  - They also used some Hindu motifs like bell, lotus, swastika. The various architectures built by different Sultans are given below:
1. **Qutub-ud-din Aibak**
    - He constructed the **Quwwat-us-Islam mosque** at Delhi and another mosque at Ajmer called the **Dhai Din Ka Jhopra**. The first was raised at the site of a destroyed Vishnu temple and the other at the site of a destroyed college of Sanskrit. Harikela Natak, a Sanskrit drama written by Vigharaj is inscribed on Dhai din ka Jhopra. This drama is based on the Kiratarjuniya of writer Bharavi.
    - **Qutub Minar** is a 73 meter high tower founded by Qutub-ud-Din Aibak and completed by Iltutmish in 1220 in the memory of the **Sufi saint Qutubuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki**. In 1369, a lightning strike destroyed the top storey so, Firoz Shah Tughlaq replaced the damaged storey and added one more in marble.
    - The Qutub Minar complex comprises of the Quwwat-us-Islam Mosque, a 7 metre high Mehrauli iron pillar, the tomb of Iltutmish, Alai Darwaza and the Alai Minar.
  2. **Iltutmish**
    - Iltutmish constructed a tomb on the grave of his eldest son, known as Sultan-Ghari, nearly three miles away from the Qutub Minar.
  3. **Balban**
    - He built his own tomb at Mehrauli though in a dilapidated condition now, marked a notable landmark in the development of Indo-Islamic architecture.
  4. **Alauddin Khilji**
    - His buildings were constructed with perfectly Islamic viewpoints and have been regarded as some of the best examples of Islamic art in India.
    - He found the city of **Siri**, built a palace of thousands of pillars within it, **Jamait Khan mosque at the shrine of Nizam-ud-din Auliya** and the famous **Alai Darwaza** at the Qutub Minar. Alai Darwaza was constructed with a dome-shaped gate made of red sandstone and decorated with stunning

Turkish features made of white marble inlay and inscriptions engraved in the ancient Naskh Script and screens made with Lattice stones depicting unique Turkish craftsmanship.

- He also constructed a magnificent tank known as **Hauz-i-Alai** or **Hauz-i-Khas** in the vicinity of the old city of Delhi.

#### 5. Tughlaqs

- The Tughlaq Sultans did not construct beautiful buildings and had minimum decoration. Probably, the primary cause of it was their economic difficulties.
- The buildings of the Tughlaq period were constructed by combining arch and dome and the striking feature was sloping walls or '**Batter**'. They also used cheaper and easily available grey colour stones.
- **Tughlaqabad**- the third city of Delhi was built by Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq.
- Mohammed-bin-Tughlaq built the Tomb of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq on a high platform with a marble dome which marks a new trend in architecture for imposing skyline.
- He also constructed the new city of **Jahanpanah** near the city of old Delhi, the fort of Adilabad and some other buildings at Daulatabad.
- Firoz Shah Tughlaq built the new city of **Firozabad** near the old city of Delhi, the **palace-fort known as Kotla Firoz Shah** within it, a college and his own tomb near Hauz-i-Khas.
- Firoz Shah also built his own mausoleum in the Hauz Khas complex. It is a square building, surrounded by battering walls and surmounted by a single dome, raised on an octagonal drum.
- During his time, a noble at the court, Khan-i-Jahan Jauna Shah constructed the tomb of his father, Tilangani, the Kali Masjid and the Khirki Masjid in the city of Jahanpanah. It was the **first octagonal tomb** in India. It is said that this tomb resembles the Dome of the Rock of Jerusalem.
- A building known as **Lal-Gumbad** was constructed by Nasiruddin Muhammad Tughlaq Shah at the grave of Kabir-ud-din Auliya.

#### 6. Sayyids & Lodhis

- Among the buildings constructed by Lodhi and Sayyid Sultans, some notables are the tombs of Mubarak Shah Sayyid, Muhammad Shah Sayyid and Sikandar Lodi and a mosque known as Mothki-Masjid by the prime minister of Sikandar Lodi at Delhi.
- The tomb of Sikander Lodhi is octagonal in shape and crowning the head of the mausoleum is a double dome with a lotus finial at the top. The walls of the tomb have foreign inscriptions with Mughal architectural designs.
- The Lodhi garden in Delhi was the example of the architecture of the Lodhis.
- Hence, the architectural excellence of the Sultanate period witnesses the evolution and development of Indo-Islamic Architecture by synthesising geometrical shapes, calligraphy, inscriptional art etc.
- With the breakup of Delhi Sultanate, the individual style of architecture had also developed in various kingdoms in different parts of India such as Bengal, Malwa, Deccan, etc.

#### DISINTEGRATION OF EMPIRE:

- The disintegration of the Delhi Sultanate had begun during the Tughlaq period.
- The invasion of Timur and the incompetent and intolerant nature of some of the Sayyid and Lodhi rulers led to the collapsing of the Delhi Sultanate.
- The rulers of the Vijayanagar and Bahmani Kingdom in the South were the first to break free from Delhi.
- Other regions like Assam, Bengal, Khandesh, Gujarat, Jaunpur, Kashmir, Multan, Malwa, Sindh, and Orissa also became independent.

- Babur ended the Lodhi Dynasty by defeating Ibrahim Lodhi in the First Battle of Panipat in 1526 AD, which brought the downfall of the Delhi Sultanate in India.



## 4. VIJAYANAGARA EMPIRE

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### Introduction:

- The Vijayanagara Empire was based in the Deccan Plateau region in South India. It was established in 1336 by Harihara I and his brother Bukka Raya I of the Sangama Dynasty.
- Vijayanagar Empire was ruled by four important dynasties and they are Sangama (1336-1485), Saluva (1485-1505), Tuluva (1491-1570) and Aravidu (1542-1586).
- The empire rose to prominence as a culmination of attempts by the southern powers to ward off Islamic invasions by the end of the 13th century.
- "A Forgotten Empire" written by Sewell in 1900 throws the light on the history of the Vijayanagar empire.
- It lasted until 1646, although its power declined after a major military defeat in the Battle of Talikota in 1565 by the combined armies of the Deccan sultanates.
- The empire is named after its capital city of Vijayanagara, whose ruins surround present day Hampi, now a World Heritage Site in Karnataka, India.

### SANGAMA DYNASTY:

#### 1. HARIHARA I (1336-1353 AD)

- In 1336 A.D. Harihara I became the ruler of the Sangama Dynasty.
- In 1352, Ala-ud- Din Hasan Bahman Shah attacked Vijayanagar. Harihara I had to surrender a portion of his territory to the Bahmani ruler.
- He found a new city of Vijayanagara on the south bank of Tungabhadra river and undertook to rule his new kingdom as the agent of a deity to whom all the land south of the river Krishna belongs.
- In 1353. Bukka-I succeeded him.

#### 2. HARIHARA II (1379-1406 AD)

- He was the first ruler to adopt regal titles such as Raja Parmeshwara, Maharajadhiraja.
- During his reign, Harihara II continued to extend the kingdom's territory through fighting against the Reddis of Kondavidu for control of the coastal Andhra between *Nellore* and *Kalinga*.
- Harihara ruled from the capital Vijayanagara now more popularly known as Hampi. What is believed to be the ruins of Harihara's palace is located among the Hampi ruins.
- He was a worshipper of Lord Shiva (Virupaksha).



- His inscriptions tell that the territory expanded in the South which included Mysore, Kanara, Trichirappalli and Kanchi.

### 3. DEVARAYA II (1422- 1446 AD)

- During his reign, Deva Raya II prevailed over his conquest of Kondavidu in 1432, repelled the invasions of Ahmad Shah I of the Bahamani and retained the Mudgal fort in 1436 but lost some areas in the Raichur doab in 1443, defeated the Gajapati of Orissa three times.
- He started increasing the number of Muslims in the army. He sent a naval expedition against Sri Lanka.
- In his inscriptions, he has the title of Gajabetekara (the elephant hunter).
- Hazare Ramaswamy temple of Deva Raya II is a modest, but perfectly finished example of Deccan architecture.
- He authorized writings such as a commentary on Brahmasutra of Badrayana and Mahanataka Sudhanidhi in Sanskrit.
- Abdur Razzaq, the ambassador of Persian monarch Shahrukh (son of Timur) visited Vijayanagar in 1442.
  - He wrote a 45-page narrative of this mission to India. It appears as a chapter in his book *Matla-us-Sadain wa Majma-ul-Bahrain*.
  - Abd-al-Razzaq's narrative of his visit to India includes describing the life and events in Calicut under the Zamorin and also of the city of Vijayanagara at Hampi, describing their wealth and immense grandeur.
  - He also left accounts of the shipping trade in the Indian Ocean during the 15th century.

### TULUVA DYNASTY:

- After Devaraya 2nd's death, a civil war broke out in which the **Suluva dynasty** assumed the throne in 1485. However, it could not remain in power much and in the ensuing struggle Tuluva dynasty was established in 1491.
- The dynasty was named "Tuluva" because they belonged to the Tulu speaking region called "TULUNAD" and their mother tongue was "Tulu" language.
- This was found by **Narasa Nayaka (1491-1503 CE)**.

### FAMOUS RULERS:

#### 1. VIRA NARASIMHA (1503-1509 AD)

- He became the king of the Vijayanagar empire after the death of Tuluva Narasa Nayaka.
- He died in 1509 and was succeeded by his brother Krishnadeva Raya.

#### 2. KRISHNADEVA RAYA (1509-1529 AD)

- Krishnadeva Raya of the Tuluva dynasty was the most famous king of the Vijayanagar Empire. He was known as 'Abhinava Bhoja', 'Andhra Pitamah' and 'Andhra Bhoja'.
- According to Domingo Paes, a Portuguese traveler "Krishnadeva Raya was the most feared and perfect king there could possibly be".
- He conquered Raichur in 1512 A.D from Yusuf Adil Khan and in 1523 A.D and captured Orissa from Gajapati Raja Prataparudra Deva and Warangal.
- His empire extended from the river Krishna in the north to River Cauvery in the south; the Arabian Sea in the west to Bay of Bengal in the east.

- The ideal of Kingship was given by him in his *Amuktamalyada* (a book on polity in Telugu). According to him, a King should gather around him people skilled in statecraft and seek their advice and help in administration. He further writes, “A crowned king should always rule with an eye towards Dharma”.
- He was an able administrator. He built large tanks and canals for irrigation. He developed the naval power understanding the vital role of overseas trade. He maintained friendly relationships with the Portuguese and Arab traders.
- He was associated with the Kondavidu inscription which contains a list of 59 items and various rates of taxes.
- The Mughal emperor Babur described in his ‘Baburnama’, Krishnadeva “as the most powerful ruler of India.”
- Krishnadevaraya patronized the Tamil Vaishnava poet Haridasa whose *Irusamaya Vilakkam* was an exposition of the two Hindu systems, Vaishnava and Shaiva, with a preference for the former.
- Ashtadiggajas: A group of eight scholars adorned his court and they were:
  - Allasani Peddanna – the author of *Manucharitram* and *Harikathasarammsamu*, he was also known as *Andhra Kavita-pitamaha*.
  - Nandi Thimmana – the author of *Parijathapaharanam*
  - Madayagari Mallana
  - Dhurjati
  - Ayyalaraju Ramabhadra Kavi
  - Pingali Surana - wrote *Raghavapan-daviyam* and *Prabhavari Padyumna*.
  - Ramaraja Bhushana - wrote *Narasabhu-paliyan* and *Harischandra Nalopa-khyanam*.
  - Tenali Ramakrishna - wrote *Panduranga mahatmya*.

#### ADMINISTRATION:

- The rulers of the Vijayanagara empire maintained the well-functioning administrative methods developed by their predecessors, the Hoysala, Kakatiya and Pandya kingdoms, to govern their territories and made the changes only where necessary.
- The King was the ultimate authority, assisted by a cabinet of ministers (*Pradhana*) headed by the prime minister (*Mahapradhana*).
- The Kingdom was divided into provinces called **Rajya**, headed by a governor, often from the royal family, who used the native language for administrative purposes.
  - A Rajya was divided into Districts (**Vishaya Vente or Kottam**) and further divided into Tehsils (**Sime or Nadu**), subdivided into municipalities (**Kampana or Sthala**).
  - The rulers of Vijayanagar adopted the principle of decentralization of political power.
- The king used to assign land called **Amarama** to his feudal chiefs who, in return, paid the fixed yearly amount to the king and also kept a fixed number of soldiers to assist him in wars. They were called **Amara Nayakas**, were fairly independent in their internal administration. This was called as the **Nayaka System**.
- **Mahanayakacharya**: He is an officer and the contact point between the villages and the Central administration.
- Tuluva dynasty had eight luminaries popularly known as **Ashtadiggajas** in his court.
- The revenue department of Vijayanagar was called **Athavana** and the coins were called **Varah or Pagoda**.

**ECONOMY:**

- **Land revenue was the main source of income** and the land was carefully surveyed and taxes were collected based on the fertility of the soil. Land was divided into four categories for purposes of assessment, wetland, dry land, orchards, and woods.
- The economy of the empire was largely dependent on **agriculture**. Sorghum (*jowar*), cotton, and pulse legumes grew in semi-arid regions, while sugarcane, rice, and wheat thrived in rainy areas.
- They had **commercial and trade relations** with, the islands in the Indian Ocean, Abyssinia, Arabia, Burma, China, Persia, Portugal, South Africa, and the Malay Archipelago.
- The empire's principal exports were pepper, ginger, cinnamon, cardamom, tamarind, timber, precious and semi-precious stones, pearls, musk, aloe, cotton cloth, and porcelain.
- **Prolific temple-building provided employment** to thousands of masons, sculptors, and other skilled artisans.

**SOCIAL LIFE:**

- Most information on the social life in the Vijayanagara empire comes from the writings of foreign visitors and evidence that research teams in the Vijayanagara area have uncovered.
- **Barbosa**, a Portuguese traveller wrote- "The king is extremely liberal in religious affairs. The Christians, the Yahudis, the Muslims, etc. can come and go, live wherever they like and pursue their religion freely in his kingdom".
- **Women occupied a high position** and took an active part in the political, social and literary life of the empire. They were educated and trained in wrestling, in the use of various weapons of offense and defense, in music and fine arts.
  - **Sati**, the practice where a widow would immolate herself with her dead husband's body, is evidenced in Vijayanagara ruins. About **fifty inscriptions** have been discovered in Vijayanagara which are called **Satikal** (Sati stone) and also **sati virakal** (sati hero stone).
  - **Devadasi system** was prevalent which legalized prostitution in a few streets of every city.
- The socio-religious movements of the previous centuries, such as **Lingayatism**, provided momentum for flexible social norms to which women were expected to abide.
- The **Hindu caste system was prevalent and rigidly followed**, with each caste represented by a local body of elders who represented the community and set rules and regulations which were implemented with decrees of king.
  - Muslims and untouchables were represented by their own groups. But the caste system did not prevent men of merit from acquiring high posts.

**ARCHITECTURE:**

- The rulers of Vijayanagar were the inheritors of the rich traditions in art and architecture of the Cholas, the Pandyas and the Hoysalas.
- **Nicolo Conti**, an Italian traveler, **Abdul Razzaq**, an ambassador from Shah Rukh of Persia and **Domingo Paes**, a Portuguese traveler, has given a vivid account of the magnificent buildings which adorned the city of Vijayanagar.
- Vijayanagar temples are surrounded by strong enclosures and characterized by ornate pillared **Kalyana mandapa** (marriage halls); **Vasanthamantapa** (open pillared halls); tall **rayagopurams** (carved monumental entrance of the temple) built of wood, brick, and stucco in the Chola style; and adorned with life-sized figures of gods and goddesses.
  - This *Dravida* style became popular during the reign of Krishnadeva Raya and is seen in South Indian temples constructed over the next two centuries.

- Artisans used the locally available hard granite because of its durability since the kingdom was under constant threat of invasion.
- The **Prasanna Virupaksha temple** (underground temple) of Bukka has a particularly fine example of the tall, ornate Raya gopuram popularized by Vijayanagar architecture.
- The **Vitthala temple** at Hampi is the best example of Vijayanagar architecture and it took several decades to complete during the Tuluva dynasty.
- **Palaces and Courtly Architecture:** No royal palace structures from the Vijayanagar period have survived intact, and most of what is known about them has been drawn from archaeological excavations at Hampi.
  - Most of the palaces faced east or north and stood within compounds surrounded by high, tapering stone and earth walls.
  - They were built on raised granite platforms with multiple tiers of moldings decorated with carved walls and ceilings.
- Krishnadevaraya renovated several temples. The most important was the temple of **Hazara Ramaswamy**. The royal family worshipped there. Its most interesting features were the four finely polished black stone pillars that support the 'Mandapa'.
- Vijayanagara rulers celebrated the **Dussehra festival** with much devotion when the king sat on his bejeweled throne in the center of Mahanavmi Dibba, a decorated platform. The platform still retains beautiful sculptures depicting soldiers, dancers and an array of animals.
- The southern 'gopuram' in the **temple of Ekambaranath** dedicated to Lord Shiva in Kanchipuram having **eleven storeys** rising to the height of 192 feet is the most remarkable one.

#### LITERATURE:

- During the rule of the Vijayanagara Empire, poets, scholars, and philosophers wrote primarily in Kannada, Telugu, and Sanskrit, and also in other regional languages such as Tamil and covered such subjects as religion, biography, fiction, music, grammar, poetry, medicine, and mathematics.
- The administrative and court languages of the Empire were Kannada and Telugu. Telugu was a popular literary medium, reaching its peak under the patronage of Krishnadevaraya.

#### **1. Major works in Telugu:**

- During Bukka I's time, Gangadevi wrote Madura Vijayam. Devraya II gave the title of Kanakkabhisekha to Srinatha who wrote Sringara Naishada, Sivar-otrimahatyam, Kasikandha, Bhim-Kanda, Harivilasam, and Ponditaradhya Charita.
- Bommara Pothana popularly (Niyogi) translated the Bhagwat Purana into Telugu and also wrote Virbhadravijayam.
- **Krishnadeva Raya** wrote '**Amuktamalyada**', a book on polity in Telugu and also a Sanskrit drama '**Jambavati Kalyanam**' and '**Usha Parinayam**' in Sanskrit. *Amuktamalyada* ("One who wears and gives away garlands") narrates the story of the wedding of the god Vishnu to Andal, the Tamil Alvar saint-poet and the daughter of Periyalvar at Srirangam.
- Achyuta Raya Patronised Rajanatha and the poetess Tirumalambadevi who wrote Vardambika Parinayam. Tirumala commented on Jayadeva's Gitagovinda, Vaishnavite Saint Poetess Molla wrote Mollaramayana in the time of Tirumala. Bhattamurthi, a scholar wrote Vasucharita in times of Tirumala.
- Srinatha, the greatest of all Telugu poets of the time who wrote books such as *Marutracharitam* and *Salivahana-sapta-sati*. He was patronized by King Devaraya II and enjoyed the same status as important ministers in the court.

- Dikshitar wrote a commentary on the Vedas and explained Advaita Philosophy Vemana wrote Vemanasatakas, moralist literature in Telugu.
- Elugandi Peddana translated Leelavati, a maths book into Telugu.
- In Telugu, Dharajati wrote Kalahastimahatyam, Madayya wrote Rajasekharacharitam, Ramabhadra wrote Sakaramatasara Sangraham.

## 2. Major works in Kannada:

- Narahari (Kumaravalmiki) composed a popular version of Ramayana called Torve Ramayan.
- Kumaravyas composed Mahabharat in Kannada. Vithalnath translated Bhagwat Purana into Kannada.
- Vaishnav Saints Purandhardas, Kanakdas and Sripathraja contributed to Kannada literature through Bhakti songs and Kirthans.
- Bhimakavi wrote Basava Purana, Chamarasa wrote Prabhulinglai, Virupaksha Pandit wrote Chennabasva Purana.

## PAINTINGS:

- During the Vijayanagar Empire, **mural paintings** made a comeback post-Chalukya's intense interest in mural paintings at Badami.
- The best representation of these paintings can be seen in the Veerabhadra temple in Lepakshi in Andhra Pradesh.
  - The ceiling of this temple is adorned with mural paintings, illustrating scenes from the epics like the Mahabharata, the Ramayana, and the Puranas and the life sketches of the benefactors of the temple.
  - The frescoes illustrate the incarnations of Lord Vishnu. Fresco is a painting rapidly completed with watercolors on wet plaster on a wall or ceiling. This is done so that the colors penetrate the plaster and become fixed as it dries.
- The ceiling of the Virupaksha temple mandapa has a painting, which depicts Vidyananya, the guru of Harihara and Bukka, and the founders of the Vijayanagar Empire being carried in a palanquin.
  - They also show the episodes from the life of the King Manunitikanda Chola, who granted justice to a cow whose calf was run over by his son's chariot. In this painting, the king is shown sacrificing the prince under the chariot's wheels, but Lord Siva is restoring the life of both the victims and praising the king's sense of justice.
- Vijayanagara art includes wall-paintings such as the Dashavatara (the ten avatars of Vishnu) and *Girijakalyana* (marriage of Parvati, Shiva's consort) in the Virupaksha Temple at Hampi, the *Shivapurana* murals (tales of Shiva) at the Virabhadra temple at Lepakshi, and those at the Kamakshi and Varadaraja temples at Kanchi.
- Kalyana Sundareswara temple in the Nallur village of the district of Tiruvarur, paintings illustrate Narada who plays the veena, an artist who keeps a pair of cymbals and a child called Skanda holding a lotus flower.
- The Vijayanagar school of painting gradually evolved into many styles of painting in South India absorbing the local artistic traditions and customs, including the Mysore and Tanjore schools of painting.

## OTHER FORM OF ARTS:

- Local hard granite was the building material of choice for architecture; however, soapstone, which was soft and easily carved, was commonly used for reliefs and sculptures.
- The carving and consecration of large monolithic statues, such as the Sasivekalu Ganesha and Kadalekalu Ganesha at Hampi; the Gommateshvara (Bahubali) monoliths in Karkala and Venur; and the Nandi bull in Lepakshi is worth watching.

- This style of sculpture can also be seen in the Vijayanagara temples of Kolar, Kanakagiri, Shringeri and other towns of Karnataka; the temples of Tadpatri, Lepakshi, Ahobilam, Tirumala Venkateswara, and Srikalahasti in Andhra Pradesh; and the temples of Vellore, Kumbakonam, Kanchi, and Srirangam in Tamil Nadu.
- The reign of the Vijayanagara empire was a watershed period in the cultural history of South India, particularly the history of Carnatic music.
  - At the height of the Vijayanagara empire great saint-composers like Purandara Dasa, Sripadaraya, Vyasaraaya, Vadirajatirtha, Kanaka Dasa, Tallapakam Annamacharya and his descendants, and Nijagunashivayogi flourished.
  - Nine musicological treatises of great significance were composed in the Vijayanagar period and these have been called the Vijayanagara *Sangitashastra Navaratna* or the 'Vijayanagara Musicological Nonet'.

#### **DECLINE OF THE EMPIRE:**

- The decline of the Vijayanagar kingdom began with the death of Krishnadeva Raya in 1529.
- The kingdom came to an end in 1565, when Rama Raya was defeated at Talikota by the joint efforts of Adilshahi, Nizamshahi, Qutubshahi, and Baridshahi in Battle of Talikota or Rakshasa Tangdi (23 January 1565).
- After this, the kingdom broke into small states and the government shifted to Penukonda and later to Chandragiri, which was made capital Venkat II of Aravidu Dynasty.

## 5. BAHMANI KINGDOM

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### Introduction:

- Bahmani Sultanate was the first independent Muslim kingdom in South India, founded in 1347, as a revolt against Muhammad bin Tughlaq of the Delhi Sultanate by Zafar Khan, of Turkish origin.
- After his coronation, he assumed the title of Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah (1347-58), it is from this title that the kingdom was called the Bahmani kingdom.
- He established his capital at Gulbarga which remained till 1424, after which the capital was shifted to Bidar by Ahmad Shah.
- The Bahmani kingdom acted as a cultural bridge between the north and the south. It also established close relations with some leading countries of West Asia including Iran and Turkey.
- After the strong rule of nearly 18 kings for about 200 years, the Southern King Krishnadeva Raya defeated the last ruler of the Bahmani Empire. After that, the kingdom got disintegrated into 5 states around 1518 AD, collectively known as Deccan Sultanates and individually as: Nizam Shahi of Ahmadnagar, Qutub Shahi of Golconda (Hyderabad), Barid Shahis of Bidar, Imad Shahi of Berar, Adil Shahi of Bijapur.

### FAMOUS RULERS:

#### 1. FIRUZ SHAH BAHMANI (1397-1422 AD):

- He defeated the Vijayanagara ruler Deva Raya I and married his daughter.
- Firuz was determined to make the Deccan region the cultural center of India. He paid much attention to the ports Chaul and Dhabol (in Maharashtra now), which attracted trade ships from the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea.
- The most important step taken by him was the induction of Hindus in the administration on a large scale.
- He was a learned man and had read books on different religions such as 'Old and New Testaments' and respected the tenets of all religions.
- He encouraged the pursuit of astronomy and built an observatory near Daulatabad.
- He was fond of natural sciences and was a good calligraphist and a poet and often composed of extempore verses.

## 2. AHMAD SHAH (1422-1436 AD):

- He transferred his capital from Gulbarga to Bidar in 1424.
- He conquered the Warangal kingdom of Reddys in 1425.
- He was called a saint (Wali) on account of his association with the famous Sufi saint Gesu Daraz.

## 3. MUHAMMAD SHAH-III (1463-1482 AD):

- In 1463 AD Muhammad Shah III became the Sultan at the age of nine.
- Mahmud Gawan became his prime minister (wakil-i-sultanat) and under Mahmud Gawan's able leadership the Bahmani kingdom became very powerful.
- With Gawan, Muhammad Shah subjected most of the Konkan and defeated the Gajapati Kingdom in 1470, thus securing the west coast trade until the arrival of the Portuguese.
- Mahmud Gawan defeated the rulers of Orissa, Sangameshwar, Dabhol, Goa, and Vijayanagar.

## 4. MAHMUD GAWAN:

- He was an Iranian by birth and was a trader at first.
- He was granted the title of Malik-ul-Tujjar and Khwaja-i-Jahan.
- He built the great university in Bidar which is known as Mahmud Gawan Madrasa.
- He improved the administration, systematized finances, encouraged public education, reformed the revenue system, disciplined the army and eliminated corruption.
- In 1481 Muhammad Gawan (an Afaqi or newcomer) was persecuted by the Deccan Muslims who were jealous of him and sentenced to death by Muhammad Shah.

### ADMINISTRATION BY BAHMANI RULERS:

- Muhammad Shah, I divided the kingdom into four Tarafs (provinces) whose capitals were Daultabad, Berar, Bidar, and Gulbarga respectively.
- Provincial governors called Tarafdars with extensive administrative and military powers were appointed in each of these provinces.
  - Tarafdar collected revenue from his province, organized the provincial army and appointed all civil and military officers of his province.
- When Mahmud Gawan worked as prime minister, the number of provinces were raised from four to eight.
  - Mahmud Gawan attempted to restrict the powers of provincial governors and for that purpose, fixed some land as the land of the Sultan (Khalisa) in each province which was managed by the officers of the central government.
- The prime minister was called Wakil-i-Sultanat, the finance minister, Amir-i-Jumla and the foreign minister, Vazir-i-Asraf.
- The chief judicial officer, after the Sultan, was called the Sadr-i-Jahar. Besides being the judicial officer, he looked after religious affairs and charitable works performed by the state.
- The head of the army, after the Sultan, was called the Amir-ul-Umra. The Sultan kept his personal bodyguards called the Khas-i-Khel.

### ECONOMY:

- Mahmud Gawan stream-lined the revenue system and improved the revenue collection of the state. Further, by this process the income of the state was known in advance and corruption of the nobles was also minimized.
- Nikitin, a Russian traveler who visited Deccan during AD 1469-1474, mentions that horses, cloth, salt, and pepper were the main items of merchandise and Mustafabad-Dabhol as a center of the commercial activity.



- Horses were imported from Arabia, Khurasan, and Turkistan; Musk and fur were imported from China.
- Interestingly, trade and commerce was mostly in the hands of Hindu merchants, whereas in the Vijayanagara kingdom, coastal trade and long-distance trade was in the hands of foreign and indigenous Muslims.

### SOCIAL LIFE:

- Bahmani rulers were mostly Sunni Muslims, but the Bahmani society was cosmo-politan in character. The Muslims, locals and foreigners, the Hindus and the Portuguese all were the components of the society.
- The predominant influence of the Sufis of the Chisti, Qadiri and Shattari orders (silsilaf) was seen.
  - Bidar emerged as one of the most important centers of the Qadiri order.
  - Sheikh Sirajuddin Junaidi was the first Sufi to receive the royal honor. The saint was the preceptor of Hasan Bahman Shah. He was buried in the Rawza-i-Shaik, south of the Gulbarga Fort.
- The famous Chisti saint of Delhi, Syed Muhammad Gesu Daraz migrated to Gulbarga in AD 1402-03 and Sultan Firuz granted a number of villages for the maintenance of Khanquah of Gesu Daraz.
- The first sultan, Alauddin Bahman Shah is noted to have captured 1,000 singing and dancing girls from Hindu temples after he battled the northern Carnatic chieftains. The later Bahmanis also enslaved civilian women and children in wars; many of them were converted to Islam in captivity.
- An interesting feature of the communal life is the mingling of Muslim and Hindu traditions and in particular, during the Urs celebrations (death anniversary), the Jangam (Shaiva order of wandering religious monks), a Lingayat in a Muslim cap blew the conch and offered flowers to the Muslim saint.

### ARCHITECTURE:

- In art and architecture, the Bahmanis were influenced by the style of the Delhi Sultanate. Art critics and historians of architecture noticed the influence of the military architecture of Europe and the civil architecture of Persia.
- The culture that developed during this time was a blend of both north and south styles and also had its own distinct styles.
- Gol Gumbaz (one of the largest domes) and Charminar located at Hyderabad are the world-famous examples of Bahmani architecture.
  - Gol Gumbaz in Bijapur is called the whispering gallery because when one whispers, the lingering echo of the whisper is heard in the opposite corner. It is made up of dark grey basalt
- The architectural works also include idgahs (prayer houses) built at Daulatabad, Gulbarga, Bidar, and Kovilkonda.
  - Their special feature is the parapet casting (made by mixing a strong cement-sand ratio and pouring it on a flat surface arranged on the ground) and a dome in the middle above the central prayer-niche.
  - Prayer niches were also provided in the walls.
- Another significant contribution to architecture is the Ibrahim Rouza (Bijapur)- a beautiful tomb replete with elegant corridors and interconnected buildings furnished with richly decorated walls and perforated stone windows.
  - 'Rouza' meaning garden was built by the ruler Ibrahim.
    - The tomb is known for its minarets, stonework, calligraphic inscriptions, parapets, etc.
- Bahmani Kings patronized Hazrat Banda Nawaz (1321-1422 AD) the great Sufi saint (his dargah of Gulbarga is a pilgrimage to the Hindus and Muslims alike).
  - He being a great scholar of Islamic wisdom, founded the Madrassa (institution), from his own funds on the line of universities of Samarkand and Khorasan.

- The rulers are buried in an elaborate tomb complex, known as the Bahmani Tombs. The interior of the tombs are decorated with colored tiles. Persian poetry and Quranic verses are inscribed on the tombs.

### **ART & LITERATURE:**

- The commercial transactions between Deccan and Middle East prompted the rulers to promote Arabic language and literature as a prominent means of communication.
- The Bahamani Sultans were patrons of the Persian language, culture, and literature, and some members of the dynasty became well-versed in that language and composed its literature in that language.
- The Sufi saints and scholars also developed Dakhani grammar and produced literature in Dakhani for the ruling class. The Chishti Sufis also composed songs in Dakhani which relied on Kannada words to a great extent.
- Some of the prominent literary works of this period include - Gesu Daraz Bande Navaz's Divan (collection of poems), Sahbuddin Ahmad Daultabadi's Bahre Mawwaj, Mullah Daud Bidari's Tahafut Salatin, Azari's Bahaman Nama.
- According to Ferishta, Gawan was the author of two works known as Rauzat-ul-Insha and Diwan-i-Ashr.
- The craftsmen of Bidar were so famed for their inlay work on copper and silver that it came to be known as Bidri.
- Sultan Shah Wali of the Bahmani Kingdom brought from Iran the master craftsman Abdullah-bin Kaiser to decorate his palaces.

### **DOWNFALL OF BAHMANI KINGDOM:**

- There was a constant war between the Bahmani and Vijayanagar rulers.
- Inefficient and weak successors after Muhammad Shah III.
- After the death of a ruler, there were several claimants to the throne leading to internal infighting for rulership.
- There was strife among the nobles, as they were divided into old-comers and newcomers or Deccanis and Afaqis (foreigners).
- Some of the Muslim Sultans of the Bahmani Kingdom followed a policy of extreme hatred towards their Hindu subjects who constituted a majority of the population.
- The Bahmani Sultans followed a policy of war and enmity towards all their neighboring states like Malwa, Khandesh, Gujarat, Telangana, and Vijayanagara, etc.

### **Breakup of the Bahmani kingdom:** Following kingdoms came into existence-

1. Imad Shahi Kingdom of Berar, founded by Imad-ul-Mulk in 1488.
2. Adil Shahi Kingdom of Bijapur, founded by Yusuf Adil Shah in 1489. Muhammad Adil Shah lies buried in the Gol Gumbaz. Bijapur was annexed by Aurangzeb in 1686.
3. Nizam Shahi Kingdom of Ahmednagar, founded by Malik Ahmad Bahri in 1490. This was conquered by Shahjahan in 1633.
4. Qutub Shahi Kingdom of Golconda, founded by Quli Qutub Shah in 1512. Muhammad Quli was the founder of the city of Hyderabad. Aurangzeb annexed Golconda in 1687.
5. Barid Shahi Kingdom of Bidar, founded by Amir Ali Barid in 1526. Bidar was later annexed by the Adil Shahis of Bijapur.

These five Muslim states of South India fought against each other but their primary enemy remained the Hindu Kingdom of Vijayanagara. In 1565, the four states barring Berar formed a confederacy and fought against Vijayanagara

in the battle of Talikota and gave a crushing defeat to it. Ultimately all of the Deccani sultanates were subsumed under Mughal territories in the 17th century.

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## 6. MUGHAL - PART 1- BABUR (1526-30)

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### **Introduction:**

- Zahiruddin Muhammad, famously known as Babur, was the founder and first king of the Mughal dynasty in India. He was a direct descendant of Taimur (Mangol King of Central Asia) and established authority over India after the first battle of Panipat (1526).
- Babur belonged to modern-day Uzbekistan and the Mughal dynasty he established had a long-lasting impact of socio-politico and cultural aspects of the nation.

### **Scenario on the Eve of Babur Invasion**

- At the beginning of the 16th century, India was ruled by different kingdoms:
  - Lodhi Dynasty in Delhi.
  - Rajputana under Rana Sanga of Mewar.
  - Sultan Mahmud Khilji II of Malwa was a weak ruler and this region was important for all the powers as:
    - a. Lodhis' wanted its fertile track and access to trade routes of Gujarat.
    - b. Marwar and Gujarat rulers wanted it to secure buffer against the Lodhis'.
    - c. Later the Gujarat and Malwa areas were successfully captured by Rana Sanga in the famous Battle of Gagrion in 1519.
  - Bengal was ruled by Nusrat Shah.
  - Vijaynagar empire of South India.
  - Bahmani Kingdom of the Deccan region.
- Thus, India was ruled by 5 Muslim rulers in (Delhi, Gujarat, Bahmani, Malwa, and Bengal) and 2 Hindu dynasties (Mewar and Vijaynagara).

### **Reasons for Babur's Invasion in India**

- **Central Asian situation:** The resurgence of Uzbeks in Central Asia under Shaibani Khan left Babur to consolidate himself at Kabul which he captured in 1504. This Central Asian situation forced Babur to abandon his hopes of creating an Empire in Central Asia and look towards India.
- **The richness of India compared to Afghan:** India was a resource-rich region during the 16th century and Afghanistan's meager income became another reason for the attraction of Babur towards India.
- **Ancestral Claim:** After the siege of Bhira by Babur in the frontier tract of North-West Punjab in 1519, Babur asked Ibrahim Lodi to return western Punjab which belonged to his uncle 'Ulugh Beg Mirza'.

- **Invitation from the Indian rulers:** Rana Sanga and Daulat Khan Lodhi (Governor of Punjab) sent invitations to Babur to invade India to overthrow the tyrant Ibrahim Lodi at Delhi and Agra to be seized by Rana Sanga during that period. That is why both of them conspired with Babur against Ibrahim Lodi. Babur also promised Alam Khan Lodi, uncle of Ibrahim Lodi the throne of Delhi in lieu of his support to capture Delhi.

### Formation of the Mughal Empire in India during Babur's reign

- **First battle of Panipat (20th April 1526)**
  - Daulat Khan Lodi wanted to set up his own empire and withdrew from the alliance with Babur. He prepared to fight both Babur and Ibrahim Lodi however his army melted away when Babur marched onto Lahore and Daulat Khan surrendered to Babur.
  - Babur marched towards Delhi via Sirhind and finally, Ibrahim Lodi and Babur's forces met at the historic battlefield of Panipat.
  - Babur's soldiers were less in number than Ibrahim Lodi's army but Babur's organization was superior. Babur successfully applied the 'Rumi' and 'Tulghuma' method of warfare (that he learned from Ottomans) and Ibrahim's greater number of forces (around 1 lakh soldiers, 500-100 elephants) fared badly before Babur's forces (around 12,000 horsemen).
  - The battle lasted for just a few hours in favor of Babur because of his skill in the art of warfare. Babur gave credit of his victory to cavalry/mounted Archers.
  - The battle of Panipat formally established the Mughal Rule in India. The financial difficulties of Babur were relieved by the rich treasures stored by the Lodi Sultans at Agra.
  - However, before consolidating his position in India, Babur had to wage hard battles against Rana Sanga of Mewar and the chieftains in and around Delhi and Agra. Hence the first battle of Panipat was politically not as decisive as it was militarily. Afghans in Western India were other important opponents to Babur's empire in India.
- **Battle of Khanwa (1527)**
  - Babur accused the Rana of breach of agreement for he had invited Babur to invade the Lodi empire in Delhi but Rana Sanga made no move to seize Agra during the battle of Panipat.
  - Rana expected Babur to return to Kabul and leave him free to establish his hegemony at least over Rajputana. Babur, on the other hand, was aware that it would be impossible for him to consolidate his position in India unless he shattered Rana's power.
  - Rana Sanga successfully established his confederacy against Babur with the help of Afghan nobles and others. Sanga represented a Rajput-Afghan alliance and he marched towards Agra with his forces.
  - Upon receiving the news of Sanga's advancement, Babur took a defensive position in Khanwa. In the battle (17th March 1527) Babur made use of his artillery well and Rana Sanga got severely injured and Rajputs suffered a big loss. Babur's Cannon fire was new to Rajputs and it played a decisive role in this battle.
  - Babur assumed the title "Ghazi" after this battle.
- **Battle of Chanderi (1528)**
  - Though Mewar Rajputs received a great shock at Khanwa, Medini Rai at Malwa was still a power to reckon with. Rana Sanga had bestowed Malwa on Medini Rai in 1520.
  - Babur soon began to cast his eyes on Malwa. He offered Shamsabad to Medini Rao in exchange for Chanderi. But Medini Rao refused the offer and preferred to die fighting, after performing the fearful Jauhar ceremonial.

- In Spite of great valour with which the Rajputs fought at Chanderi (1528), Babur faced little difficulty in overcoming Medini Rai. With his defeat, resistance across Rajputana was completely shattered.
- **Battle of Ghagra (1529)**
  - Nusrat Shah of Bengal though apparently advocated friendship with Babur, secretly adopted hostile measures against him. He considered the existence of the Nuhani Kingdom (afghans) in Bihar as the buffer between Mughals and his own possession in parts of Bihar.
  - These hostile developments were noticed by Babur and he mobilized his forces at Ghagra and inflicted a crushing defeat upon Nusrat Shah's army. This ended the Afghan-Nusrat coalition and demoralized the Afghan rebels.
  - Thus, within four years, Babur succeeded in crushing the hostile powers and now could think of consolidating himself at Delhi.
  - But he could hardly get the opportunity to rule as he died soon after (26 December 1530) at the age of 48 and the throne passed into the hands of his son Humayun.

### Culture During Babur

- Babur was a great scholar of Chagatai Turkish (crude Turkish) language and himself wrote his memoir in that language called '*Tuzuk-e-Baburi*'. *Baburnama* was a Persian translation of this book written by **Abdul Rahim Khan-e-Khana** during the reign of Akbar.
- Babur invented a new style of verses in Persian called *Mubaiyan*. He also prepared a versified version of Waladiyah Raisala of Sheikh Ubaidullah.
- Babur's daughter Gulbadan Begum wrote *Humayunama* which is a memoir of Humayun in Persian.

## 7. MUGHALS - PART 2 - HUMAYUN AND SHER SHAH (1530-56)

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### HUMAYUN:

- Humayun was the son of Babur and the second emperor of the Mughal empire in India, who ruled from 1530-1540 and again from 1555-1556.
- The original name of Humayun was 'Nasir-ud-din Muhammad Humayun'. He was born to Maham Begum in 1508 in Kabul.
- He participated in the battles of Panipat and Khanua and looked after the administration of Hisar, Badakhshan, and Sambhal during the life-time of his father.
- He faced the challenges from two quarters - Internal and External :
  - Internal - Revolt from his brothers Kamran, Askari, and Hindal.
  - External - Bahadur Shah of Gujarat and Sher Shah Suri of Bihar.
- Humayun defeated Mahmud Lodhi (the Afghans who had conquered Bihar) at Daurah (1532) and laid siege to Chunar where Sher Shah offered nominal submission (1532).
- Humayun also defeated **Bahadur Shah of Gujarat** in 1535 who was planning an assault on the Mughal territories with Portuguese aid.
- **Battle of Chausa (1539)**
  - When Humayun marched on Gujarat, Sher Shah tried to wrest his control over Agra. Though Humayun's rapid action secured Agra from Sher Shah, the second city of Mughal empire 'Gaur' (capital of Vilayat of Bengal) fell into the hands of Sher Shah and he depleted the vast wealth of Bengal.
  - The withdrawal of Sher Shah from Bengal to the east was not followed by Humayun.
  - When Humayun was in Bengal, his brother 'Hindal' rebelled and declared himself as emperor in Agra.
  - In this background, Sher Shah marched his forces on the banks of the Ganges to engage a battle with Humayun. This Battle of Chausa in June 1539 proved fatal for Humayun because of his casual approach towards his enemy resulting in his own defeat.
- **Battle of Kannauj/Bilgram (1540)**
  - After his defeat, Humayun was able to escape from the battle of Chausa and reached Agra, where he pardoned his brothers for plotting against him and forgave Hindal.

- However, Sher Shah's armies were drawing closer to Agra day by day. Humayun had a conflict with his brother Kamran over his approach to tackle the enemy and as a result, Kamran withdrew his support to Humayun and returned to Kabul to build his own large army.
- Humayun with his brothers Askari and Hindal marched to meet Sher Shah army at Kannauj and he finally lost the throne of Delhi to Sher Shah Suri at the **Battle of Kannauj/Bilgram (1540)**.
- Humayun retreated and took shelter with Shah Tahmasp of Safavid Empire in Iran as he received no help from his own brother in Kandahar.
- **Re-rise of Humayun to Power**
  - With the support of his Mughal army, tribesmen and Shah Tahmasp's aid, Humayun seized Kandahar and Kabul from his brothers Askari Mirza and Kamran Mirza by 1553 and later Kamran Mirza was blinded for his treachery.
  - Sher Shah had died in 1545 and later his successor son Islam Shah also died in 1554. The death of Islam Shah weakened the roots of the Sur Empire in India as it gave rise to civil war in the Sur empire for succession.
  - Humayun's forces under the leadership of Bairam Khan marched towards India recaptured Delhi after defeating the armies of Sikandar Shah Suri, the sixth ruler of the Sur dynasty in the Battle of Sirhind on 22 June 1555.
  - Mughal rule was re-established in India after 15 years.
  - He ruled over most of India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan and was an efficient ruler.
  - On 27th January 1556, he fell from the stairs of Sher Mandal, his library and died.

### The Afghan Interregnum: Sur Empire (1540-1556)

#### 1. SHER SHAH

- Sher Shah was the founder of the Sur Empire in Northern India with Sasaram as its capital.
- His real name was Farid Khan. His father was an Afghan jagirdar of Sasaram and khawaspur - Tanda in Bihar.
- In 1522 AD Sher Shah got into the service of Bahar Khan Lohani (later Mohammad Shah Lohani) an independent ruler of Bihar. He gave the title of Sher Khan to Farid.
- Sher Shah also served under Babur for some time. He gained the strong fort of Chunar by marrying the widow Lad Mallika.
- Sher Shah Suri is accused by Abd al-Qadir Badayuni and other Muslim historians for destroying old cities while founding new ones on their ruins after his own name.

#### His Conquests :

- Sher Shah defeated the combined forces of the Lohani chiefs of Bihar and Mohamud Shah of Bengal in the battle of Surajgarh and after the death of Mohammad Shah Lohani, he soon usurped the throne of Bihar in 1533.
  - He defeated the ruler at Bengal and took the title of 'Hazrat-e-ala'.
- He defeated Humayun first at the battle of Chausa (1539 AD) and then at the battle of Kannauj/Bilgram (1540AD).
  - After this victory (Kannauj) he proclaimed himself as 'Sher Shah' and as the king of Hindustan.
- He subdued Khokhars of salt ranges in 1542 and entrusted the task of building a fort at Rohtas (now a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Pakistan) to Todarmal.



- He then conquered Malwa in 1542 by defeating Puran Mal of Raisen (a town in present-day Madhya Pradesh).
- His most formidable enemy was Maldev, Rathore chief of Marwar. Sher Shah defeated him (in the battle of Giri Sumel, 1544) by sowing dissension and creating confusion in the minds of Rajputs. Sher Shah also suffered great loss in the battle which is evident from his comment that 'for a few grains of bajra, I almost lost the entire kingdom of Hindustan'.

### SUR ADMINISTRATION:

- Sher Shah during his seven-year reign (1538-1545) setup various economic and military administration reforming practices.
- He divided his whole empire into 47 divisions called 'Sarkars' and these were again subdivided into smaller administrative units called 'Parganas'.
- For the convenience of travelers, Sher Shah built many Sarai (inn) at a distance of every 2 kos (about 8km).
  - These sarai were also used as Dak-Chowki (postal administration points).
  - The roads and sarais of Sher Shah have been called the 'arteries of the empire'.
- He also established an efficient postal system, with mail being carried by relays of horse riders.
- He revived the declining city of Pataliputra and also improved the revenue system by adopting 'Zabti-i-harsala' (assessment every year) method of revenue collection.
  - Land was measured using the 'Gaz-i-sikandari' and Jarib or rope was a standard unit of measurement.
  - He introduced two documents i.e. patta (the amount each peasant had to pay) and Qabuliyat (deed of agreement).
- He reintroduced the branding system (Dagh) of horses and descriptive rolls (Chehra) which had fallen into disuse.
  - Dagh and Chehra system was introduced first time by Alauddin Khilji (1296-1316).

### REVENUE:

- His greatest contribution was the land revenue system which was based on measurement. It inspired Akbar's Dahashala and is compared with the Ryotwari system of Britishers in India.
- Under Sher Shah, lands were divided into three categories: Good, bad and middling and computed 1/3rd of the average yield as the share of the state. The peasants were given options of paying in cash or kind though Sher Shah preferred cash.
- He also issued the first Rupiya from "Taka". He introduced copper coins which were called Dam, Half Dam and quarter Dam as per denomination.

### ART & ARCHITECTURE:

- Sher Shah built a beautiful mausoleum surrounded by water for himself in between lake Sasaram in Bihar.
- He built several monuments such as the Sher Shah Suri Masjid in Patna, the Qila-i-Kuhna mosque inside the Purana Qila complex in Delhi, and the Sher Mandal, an octagonal building also inside the Purana Qila complex, which later served as the library of Humayun.
- He built a new city, Bhera, in present-day Pakistan in 1545, including within it a grand masjid named after him.
- Sher Shah built four roads, the most famous was the Grand Trunk Road from Chittagong (Bengal) to Kabul. These roads were lined with trees, wells and rest houses.
- The famous Hindi work Padmavat by Malik Muhammad Jayasi was written during his reign.

- It was because of his innovations and reforms that Humayun called him “Ustad-I-Badshahan” i.e. teacher of Kings.
- Abbas Khan Sarwani was his historian who wrote *Tarikh-e-Shershahi (History of Sher Shah)* around 1580, provides detailed documentation about Sher Shah's administration.

#### DEATH & SUCCESSION:

- Sher Shah ruled for a short span of time and died accidentally due to an explosion while capturing the fort of Kalinjar (in Bundelkhand region of UP) in 1545.
- Sher Shah was succeeded by his son Islam Shah. He codified Islamic laws to counter ulemas. Islam was succeeded by his son Firuz Shah Suri who was only twelve years.
- Within a few days, the boy ruler had been murdered by Sher Shah's nephew Muhammad Mubariz Khan, who then ascended the throne as Muhammad Adil Shah. He was a great musician.
- His Hindu minister, Hemu became powerful who adopted the title of Vikramaditya.
- The challenge of Hemu was subdued at the second battle of Panipat in 1556 AD by Akbar and Bairam Khan.



## 8. MUGHALS - PART 3 - AKBAR (1556-1605)

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### Introduction:

- 'Abu'l-Fath Jalal-ud-din Muhammad Akbar' was born on 15 October 1542, in the palace of Raja Virasal. He was crowned as the third Mughal emperor in 1556 at Kalanaur at the age of 13 years.
- Bairam Khan was his regent (Ataliq). He defeated **Hemu Vikramaditya** in the second battle of Panipat (5 November 1556).
  - Hemu Vikramaditya was a Hindu king who assumed the title of Vikramaditya after defeating Akbar in the Battle of Delhi on October 1556.
- The period 1556-60 is known as the period of Bairam Khan's regency. He revolted against Akbar but was pardoned by him later.
- The Uzbek rebellion under Abdullah Khan Uzbek was crushed by Akbar. The year 1580-81 was the most critical year of Akbar's reign when his half-brother Mirza Hakim, ruler of Kabul, attacked India. Akbar moved to North-West frontier for 12 years to guard against the design of Uzbek.
- **Khandesh** was the first Deccan state to submit to Akbar.
- The idea behind the Rajput policy of Akbar was to make them stakeholders in the empire. While on his visit to Ajmer shrine of Moin-ud-din-Chisti, he received the first submission from Rajput ruler **Bharmal of Amber**. Akbar married his daughter Jodha Bai (mother of Jahangir).
- His last conquest was **Asirgarh** (1601). Akbar died in 1605 and was buried at Sikandra, Agra.

### Administration of Akbar :

- Akbar's concept of Kingship was based on an idea of '**Farr-e-Izadi**'. According to it, kingship was the ray of light emanating from god.
- Akbar organized the nobility and his army by means of the '**Mansabdari system**' in 1595-96. It was a single service combining both military and civil responsibility.
  - The nobility was divided into various ranks called Zat and each Noble was required to maintain the minimum number of cavalymen called Sawar. This Zat and Sawar formed the base of the Mansabdari system
  - Zat fixed the status and salary of the individual.
  - Sawar rank indicated the number of cavalymen (**sawar**) a mansabdar was required to maintain.

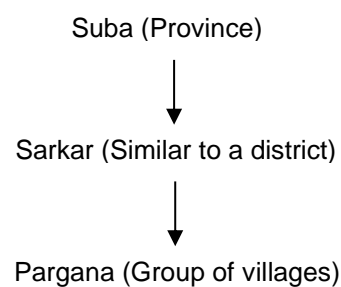
- For every Sawar a mansabdar was paid Rs. 240/annum over and above his salary. The mansabdars were assigned jagirs instead of cash payment. However, a jagir-holder possessed only fiscal rights over the jagir and was stripped off of rights of land-ownership, occupancy or residence.
- Mansab was not hereditary. King had the right to appoint him. Sawar rank was distinguished by two special features.
  - For every 10 cavalymen, a mansabdar had to maintain 20 horses known as the 'Dah Bishti system' (10-20 system) and a provision was made that the contingents of the noble should be mixed one.
- **Jama** was estimated income from Jagir. **Haasil** was actual income realized from the Jagir. In the later period, Jama was inflated and the officers could not get the requisite Haasil, it led to **the Jagirdari crisis** which was one of the reasons for the fall of the empire.
- Only Rajput Mansabdars were given more extensive rights of residence and local powers within their homelands in Rajasthan. They received patrimonial land (watan) as a part of Jagirs assigned to them.
- 'Sayurghalor Madad-e-Mash' (state revenue exempted land grants) were given to scholars, religious man.

### Land Revenue System of Akbar

- In 1582, Akbar instituted a new system of revenue collection called **Dahsala** developed by Todarmal and Muzzaffar Khan Turbati. It is also called as **Zabti** system or measurement system or Todarmal's Bandobast.
- Under this, the average produce of different crops and their average price prevailing over the last 10 years were calculated and 1/3rd of the average produce fixed in rupees per bigha was demanded as the state's share.
- Under this system, land was divided into four categories:
  - **Polaz** - annually cultivated
  - **Parauti** - left fallow for a short period (1 or 2 years)
  - **Chachar** - left fallow for 2-3 years
  - **Banjar** - uncultivated for 5 or more years
- **Malikana**: It was a compensation for impost and prerequisite lost equivalent to 10% to Zamindars.
- Dhenkli, Charsa, Saqiya: Systems used for irrigation.

### Governance under Akbar

- Akbar reorganized the central machinery of administration on the basis of the division of power between various departments and of checks and balances. He made sure that no office gets undue importance.
- Akbar divided his empire into 12 subas in 1580. The pattern of administration at the capital was repeated in each suba. He also appointed 2 governors in one province. At the time of his death, there were 15 subas due to conquest in Deccan.
- Each Suba was divided into a number of Sarkars which itself were divided into Pargana.
- The head of the Sarkar was a Faujdar and that of a Pargana was a Shikdar. Each Pargana consisted of several villages that were governed by a Muqaddam, a Patwari and a Chowkidar, along with a panchayat.
- A Governor, Diwan, Bakshi, Sadr, Qazi and Waqia-Navis or news reporters were appointed to each of the provinces.
- The Kotwal was in charge of town administration (mostly to maintain law and order).



<i>Official</i>	<i>Department</i>
Diwan or Wazir	Revenue
Mir Bakshi	Military (not commander in chief but paymaster general of the army)
Mir Saman	Imperial Household
Sadr	Religious grants
Qazi	Judicial department

### Religious Policy of Akbar

- Akbar was influenced by Ibn Arabi's idea of Wahdat-ul-Wajood. He put forward the idea of peace with all (Sulh-i kul).
- In 1562, he stopped the practice of converting prisoners of war to Islam. Akbar abolished the pilgrim tax in 1563 and Jizyah (on non-muslims) in 1564. He allowed his Hindu wives to worship their own gods.
- In 1575, he constructed the Ibadat Khana at Fatehpur Sikri for religious discussions. Initially, it was open to Muslims only but later in 1578 it was open to people of all religions. Purushottam Das (Hindu), Mahraji Rana (Parsi), Hari Vijaya Suri (Jain), Monserrate and Acquaviva (Christian) participated in the discussion.
- This religious discussion in Ibadat Khana led to the declaration of Mahzarnama (1579). Through it, Akbar asserted that if there were more than one interpretation of Islamic law, he was entitled to choose any of the interpretation which would be in the interest of good order. Thus, Akbar became Imam-e-Adil i.e. supreme judicial authority.
- In 1582 Akbar discontinued Ibadat-Khana and inaugurated Tauheed-e-Ilahi (Din-e-Ilahi) i.e. unity of all religion. Then Akbar declared himself the spiritual guide of the people and states that the Tauheed-e-Ilahi favored peace and tolerance.
- Din-e-Ilahi: In 1582, he propagated a new religion called Din-e-Ilahi or Divine Faith. However, there is a debate among historians whether it was a new religion or one of the religious policies of Akbar.
  - The new religion believed in one God. It had all the good points of every religion.
  - Its foundation was balanced. It didn't endorse any philosophy.
  - It aimed at bridging the gap that separated different religions.
  - Akbar did not compel anyone to join his new religion.
  - Only a few like Birbal, Abul Fazi and Faizi at the court accepted Akbar's spiritual guidance. The Tauheed-e-Ilahi virtually died with him.

### Conquest Policy: Empire building by Akbar

- Akbar was the founder of Rajput policy of the Mughals. Akbar was aware of the fact that without Hindu allies it would be difficult to maintain control over India. Hence, he adopted the policy of peace with Rajputs.
- In 1662, Raja Bhar Mal of Amber became the first state to submit and Akbar fostered the Mughals - Rajput alliance by marrying his daughter Jodha Bai. Henceforth numerous Rajputs worked under the Mughal court. The most notable among them was Raja Man Singh of Amer.

<i>Region</i>	<i>Ruler</i>	<i>Significance</i>
Malwa (1561)	Baz Bahadur	He was a famous musician king. Later he became Akbar's mansabdar.
Merth in Mewar		Soon ruler of Marwar, Bikaner, and Jaisalmer submitted (1563).
Garh-Katanga (1564)	Rani Durgavati	
Chittor (1567-68)	Rana Udai Singh	Rajput states of Ranthambore captured (1608) and Bikaner submitted.
Gujarat (1572-73)		Buland Darwaza at Fatehpur Sikri was made in commemoration of this.
Bengal (1573-74)	Daud Khan Karrani	
Battle of Haldighati (1576)	Maharana Pratap of Rajasthan (Sisodia)	Man Singh led Mughal army
Kashmir (1586)		
Kabul (1586)	Half-brother - Muhammad Hakim	Man Singh was made Governor
Orissa (1592)	Afghan rulers	Captured by Man Singh
Kandhar (1594)	Persian rulers	Established the scientific boundary of the empire
Ahmednagar (1600)	Chand bibi	Parts of Ahmednagar annexed.
Asirgarh (1601) in Deccan		Last conquest of the Akbar

### Akbar's Navratnas

#### 1. Abul Fazl

- The Wazir of Akbar and author of Akbar's reign.
- He also led the Mughal imperial army in its war in Deccan.
- Abul Fazl wrote the Ain-i-Akbari and Akbar Nama. Ain-i-Akbari is the third volume of Akbarnama, a 16th-century detailed document recording the administration of the Mughal Empire under Emperor Akbar. The first volume of *Akbarnama* deals with the birth of Akbar, the history of Timur's family and the reigns of Babur and Humayun and the Suri sultans of Delhi.

#### 2. Faizi

- He was historian Abul Fazl's brother in Akbar's court.
- He translated Lilavati of Bhaskaracharya (a mathematical work) into Persian.

### 3. **Fakir Aziao Din and Mullah Do Piazza**

- Both were Akbar's chief advisors.

### 4. **Tansen**

- He is believed to be one of the greatest musicians of all time, was born in a Hindu family of Gwalior.
- Tansen accepted Islam at the hands of the great Sufi mystic and saint, Shaikh Muhammad Ghaus of Gwalior.
- Tansen was accomplished in Raag Deepak & Raag Malhar.

### 5. **Raja Birbal alias Mahesh Das**

- He was a courtier in the administration of Akbar.
- Birbal was referred to as a court wit as a result of the fact that he frequently had witty and humorous exchanges with Akbar.
- He was given the title of 'Kavi Priya'.
- Birbal died in the campaign against the Yousfzai tribe of the north-west.

### 6. **Raja Todarmal**

- He was Akbar's Finance Minister.
- He overhauled the revenue system in the kingdom.

### 7. **Raja Man Singh**

- He was the Kacchwaha Raja of Ajmer.
- He was a mansabdar and a trusted general of Akbar.
- He assisted Akbar in many battles including the well-known battle of Haldighati among others.

### 8. **Abul Rahim Khan-e-Khana**

- He was a son of Akbar's trusted caretaker Bairam Khan and was a court poet.
- Although Muslim by birth, he was a devotee of Lord Krishna.
- He translated Tuzuk-i-Babri (written by Babur himself in Chagatai Turkish) into Persian Baburnama. Originally written in Chagatai language (crude Turkish) but contained many Persian prose and couplets. Khan-e-Khana completely translated it into Persian.

### 9. **Hamim Hamama**

- Very close friend of Akbar, he was the chief of royal school.

### 10. **Sheikh Mubarak**

- A Sufi, he was the brain behind Akbar's Mahzar or Declaration which has been wrongly called a 'decree of infallibility'.

## **ARCHITECTURE:**

- Akbar commissioned the building of several forts and mausoleums during his reign and established a distinct architectural style that has been dubbed as Mughal architecture.
- **Humayun's Tomb:** One of the earliest buildings built is the Tomb of Humayun, in Delhi.
  - It was built after Humayun's death by his first wife Hamida Banu Begum.

- This splendid tomb, designed by a Persian Architect Malik Mirza Ghiyas and executed by Indian craftsmen and masons, is a fine example of the synthesis of Indian-Persian traditions.
- **Fatehpur Sikri:** Akbar's greatest architectural achievement was the construction of Fatehpur Sikri, his capital city near Agra.
  - The construction of the walled city was started in 1569 and completed in 1574. It contained some of the most beautiful buildings – both religious and secular which testify to the Emperor's aim of achieving social, political and religious integration.
  - The main religious buildings were the huge Jama Masjid and the small Tomb of Salim Chisti.
  - Other buildings are Diwan-i-Khas, Jodha Bai's Palace, Birbal's Palace, Mariam's Palace and a five-storeyed pillared structure called Panch Mahal, said to be built on the plans of Buddhist viharas. The palace has a beautiful painting of Lord Krishna on the premise.
- **Buland Darwaza:** In order to commemorate the victory over Gujarat, Akbar built the magnificent Buland Darwaza at a distance of 43 km from Agra.
  - It literally translates to the Gate of Magnificence and is supposed to be the world's highest gateway.
  - This classic example of Mughal architecture is made of red and buff sandstone and is exquisitely decorated using white and black marble.
- Akbar built forts at Lahore, Allahabad, and Agra. Agra fort built with red sandstone was the model for Red fort in Delhi. The magnanimous Agra Fort used to be the main residence of the Mughal emperors till 1638. The glorious Agra fort was declared as a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to the architectural brilliance of the walled fortress.
- Jahangiri Mahal in Agra is built on the designs of Man Mandir of Gwalior.
- He started construction of his own tomb at Sikandarabad which was completed by Jahangir.

#### ART & LITERATURE:

- He started a department for translation of works: Mahabharata, the Ramayana, the Atharva –Veda, the Bhagavad Gita, and the Panchatantra were translated from Sanskrit to the Persian language.
- Ramayana and Singhasan Batisi were translated by Mulla Abdul Qadir Badayuni into Persian. Panchatantra was translated in Persian by Faizi. Atharva Veda was translated by Ibrahim Sirhindi. Rajatarangini was translated by Maulana Shah Mohammad Shahabadi.
- Akbar was responsible for setting up the first atelier of court painters, which he staffed with artists from all parts of India whose work he took a keen interest in. This atelier was chiefly responsible for illustrating books on a variety of subjects: histories, romances, poetry, legends, and fables of both Persian and Indian origin.
- Baswan and Daswant were two Hindu painters in his court. Daswant painted Razmnama (Persian Mahabharat).
- The major project commissioned by Akbar was 'Hamzanama,' which narrated the legend of Amir Hamza (Uncle of Muhammad Paigambar). Akbar had enjoyed these stories during his childhood, so he ordered the recreation of 'Hamzanama'. The Hamza-Nama paintings are exceptional on two counts, for their large scale, and for paper paintings glued to cloth background. It is actually a book with stories of Amir Hamza along with numerous miniature paintings. The paintings were supervised first by Mir Syed Ali and then by Abdus Samad. The work took almost 14 years for completion from 1562 to 1577.
- During Akbar's reign, an artist named Kesu Das started implementing European techniques in Mughal paintings. A renowned painter named Govardhan worked under three major Mughal emperors - Akbar, Jahangir, and Shah Jahan.
- Other famous paintings commissioned by Akbar include 'Gulistan', 'Darab Nama', 'Khamasa of Nizami', 'Baharistan', etc. 'Gulistan', which was Saadi Shirazi's masterpiece, was created at Fatehpur Sikri.



**DEATH:** On 3 October 1605, Akbar fell ill with an attack of dysentery, from which he never recovered. He is believed to have died on 27 October 1605, after which his body was buried at his mausoleum in Sikandra, Agra. Akbar left a rich legacy both for the Mughal Empire as well as the Indian subcontinent in general. During his reign, the nature of the state changed to a secular and liberal one, with emphasis on cultural integration.



## 9. MUGHALS - PART 4 - JAHANGIR (1605-1627)

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### INTRODUCTION:

- Nur-ud-din Muhammad Salim known by his imperial name, Jahangir was the fourth Mughal Emperor, who ruled from 1605 until his death in 1627.
- His imperial name Jahangir (in Persian) means 'conqueror of the world', or 'world-seizer'.
- He had a bitter relationship with his father Akbar and he tried to revolt against him several times, but the father and son later reconciled.
- Upon Akbar's death on October 27, 1605, Jahangir ascended the throne forcefully, which did not go down well with many within the royal court. In fact, his own son, Khusrau Mirza, had revolted against him.
- Jahangir's forces were successful in defeating Khusrau Mirza and his supporters in the battle of Bhairawal. Despite being the emperor's son, Khusrau Mirza was partially blinded for his act of treason. He was later killed on January 26, 1622, at the orders of his brother, Prince Khurram (Shah Jahan), who was Jahangir's favorite.
- He also ordered the execution of the fifth Sikh Guru, Guru Arjan Dev in 1606 for supporting his son Khusrau.
- Jahangir married Mehr-un-Nisa, the widow of Sher Afghani in 1611. The title of Nur Jahan which translates to 'Light of the World' was conferred on her and also given the status of Badshah Begum, coins were struck in her name and all royal farmans bore her name.

### CONQUESTS:

- Jahangir's first military campaign was against Rana Amar Singh of Mewar.
  - He was successful in making Rana Amar Singh of Mewar surrender before him, which led to a peace treaty between Rana and Jahangir in 1615.
  - According to which, all the territories of Mewar, including Chittor, were restored, but it was stipulated that the fortifications of Chittor would not be repaired.
  - In this way, Jahangir ended a century-long struggle with the state of Mewar.
  - The campaign against the Rajputs was pushed so extensively that they were made to submit with great loss of life and property.
- After gaining control over Mewar, Jahangir turned his attention towards South India. In Ahmednagar, Jahangir was confronted by Malik Ambar, the Wazir of Ahmednagar. In 1621, Prince Shah Jahan was deputed to lead the Mughal campaign against the combined Deccani forces under Malik Ambar which again suffered a severe defeat at the hands of the Mughals. Ambar had to restore all the Mughal territories.
- Despite his best efforts, Jahangir was not able to gain complete control over regions like Ahmednagar, Golconda, and Bijapur. However, the king of Bijapur acted as a mediator between the rulers of Ahmednagar and the Mughals.

- However, Mughals suffered a blow when Jahangir lost Kandhar to Persian Safavid ruler, Shah Abbas in 1622. The revolt of Prince Shahjahan (1623-25) was suppressed by Prince Parvez and Mahabat Khan.

#### ADMINISTRATION:

- Jahangir allowed the administrative system of Akbar to remain practically untouched.
- His twelve orders issued in the early period of his reign showed his great concern for the welfare of his subjects. They were:
  - He ordered the building of sarais, mosques and wells along the roads.
  - He prohibited the opening of merchants' bales without their knowledge and permission.
  - Government officers were ordered not to take possession of anyone's house.
  - He prohibited the levy of certain cesses.
  - He abolished certain punishments such as cutting of nose, ears, etc.
  - No government collector or jagirdar was to marry with the people of his Parganas without royal permission.
  - Government hospitals were to be established in big cities for the treatment of poor people.
  - If someone died, his property should be given to his heirs. If the deceased person had no heir, the property should be placed in the custody of a State officer to be used for the construction and repair of public buildings.
  - He forbade the officials to take possession of cultivators' land by force.
  - He prohibited the slaughter of animals on certain days.
  - He confirmed all officers and jagirdars in the posts which they had held in Akbar's time.
  - He prohibited the manufacture and sale of wine and intoxicating drugs.
- The **Vakil or Vakil-i-Mutlaq** remained the highest dignitary next only to the emperor.
- Jahangir raised several of his favorites, who were not possessed of special ability, to high posts. Eg: Sharif Khan appointed as grand Wazir.
- Ghiyas Beg, who later became famous as the father of Nur Jahan, was appointed diwan or revenue minister and given the title of Itmad-ud-daulah.
- **Chain of Justice (Zanjir-I-Adl)**: A golden chain having 60 bells and weighing several 'maunds' was fastened between the Shahburj of Agra fort and a stone pillar raised on the banks of Yamuna. People seeking justice were required to pull this chain in order to put forth their complaints or petitions to the King.

#### RELIGIOUS VIEWS:

- Jahangir did not grant special and biased powers to Muslims, nor did he burden the Hindus with special taxes. However, he is said to have tortured many Hindus for marrying Muslim girls in Kashmir.
- Jahangir's decision to execute Guru Arjan Dev convinced people that Jahangir hated Hindus and the Sikhs. It gave birth to the new policy of Miri and Piri under the spiritual guidance and leadership of Guru Hargobind, son, and successor of Guru Arjan. In this policy, Guru asked for two kirpans to be donned on him; one to symbolize the concept of Miri or temporal authority and the second to symbolize the concept of Piri or spiritual authority.
- In another instance, Jahangir is said to have ordered the removal of a Varaha statue while visiting a Hindu temple. These incidents are viewed as pieces of evidence of Jahangir's dislike towards other religions, especially Hinduism.
- Jahangir was attracted by Christian themes, which played a major role in him allowing the British to conduct trade in his territory.

- He prohibited the intercaste marriages between families of the government officials and also the matrimonial alliances with the people of their own Parganas, without royal permission.

#### ART:

- Apart from strengthening his military prowess, Jahangir also gave importance to art, especially paintings.
- The Mughal painting flourished under Jahangir's reign, which provided an opportunity for many artists.
- Special progress was made in portrait paintings and paintings of animals. The use of 'Halo' and divine lights started under Jahangir.
- He also preserved paintings from Emperor Akbar's period. An excellent example of this is the painting of Musician Naubat Khan, son in law of legendary Tansen. It was the work of Ustad Mansur.
- One of the major projects commissioned by him was the 'Jahangirnama.' It was an autobiography of Jahangir and it consisted of several paintings that included unusual themes such as fights between spiders, the union of a saint with a tigress, etc.
- During his reign, he came into direct contact with the English Crown and was sent gifts of oil paintings, which included portraits of the King and Queen. He encouraged his royal atelier to take up the single point perspective favored by European artists, unlike the flattened multi-layered style used in traditional miniatures.
- Manohar and Basawan excelled in portrait painting, Ustad Mansur specialized in painting rare animals and birds and Abul Hasan was an expert in designing color scheme.
- A collection at the British Museum in London contains seventy-four drawings of Indian portraits dating from the time of Jahangir, including a portrait of the emperor himself.
- Among the prominent musicians of Jahangir's time, Tansen's son *Bilas Khan*, *Chhatar Khan*, *Makkhu* and *Hmajjan* were prominent. Jahangir gave the title of Anand Khan to a ghazal singer, Shauki.

#### ARCHITECTURE:

- His contributions to the Mughal architecture are limited, though he built a number of buildings but from the architectural point of view they were much poorer than the buildings of Akbar.
- The first great architectural achievement of Jahangir is the construction of Akbar's mausoleum at Sikandra about three miles from Agra. The principal gateway on the south is a structure in the form of a rectangle built of red sand-stone.
- As Jahangir spent most of his time at Lahore, he extended the Palace at Lahore Fort considerably. He built a new city of Shahdara near Lahore around his mausoleum. In the fort, he also constructed Moti Masjid which was mainly meant for the ladies of the Harem.
- The most notable building of Jahangir's time was the tomb of Itimadud Daulah built in Agra by Nur Jahan as a tribute to her father. It was built entirely of white marble and decorated in elaborate *pietra dura* mosaic, an inlay technique of using cut and fitted, highly polished colored stones to create images. This building marked a transition between the red sandstone cum marble constructions of Akbar and Jahangir and the pure marble creations of Shah Jahan.

#### LITERATURE:

- He cultivated his own style in Persian and wrote his memoirs in elegant prose. He was also a good critic of Persian poetry and composed several verses and *ghazals*.
- Jahangir himself wrote his autobiography 'Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri'.
- Other important literary and historical works of contemporary times were 'Iqbalnam-i-Jahangir' and 'Masir-i-Jahangir'.

- It was for him that Jayasi's Padmavat was translated into Persian, though the work was recognized only as an Indian fable
- The most famous Hindi poet from the time of Akbar and Jahangir was Tulsi Das (died in 1623).
- Jamal al-din Inju, author of *Farhang-i Jahangiri*, the first comprehensive Persian lexicon, dwells at length on the point that Persian, together with Arabic, is the language of Islam.

#### DEATH:

- Jahangir died on the journey from Kashmir to Lahore, near Sarai Saadabad in Bhimber in 1627.
- He did not possess the high idealism and genius of Akbar, but he made no departure from his father's policy of admitting Hindus to higher public services.
- Jahangir's reign, on the whole, was of peace and prosperity to the empire. Jahangir was succeeded by his third son, Prince Khurram, who took the regnal name Shah Jahan.



## 10. MUGHALS - PART 5 - SHAH JAHAN (1627-1658)

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### INTRODUCTION:

- Shahab-ud-din Muhammad Khurram, better known by his regnal name Shah Jahan ("King of the World") was the fifth Mughal emperor, who reigned from 1628 to 1658.
- Shah Jahan was widely considered the most competent of Emperor Jahangir's four sons and after Jahangir's death in late 1627, when a war of succession ensued, Shah Jahan emerged victorious. He put to death all of his rivals for the throne and crowned himself emperor in January 1628 in Agra.
- In 1612, he married Arjumand Banu Begum, daughter of Asaf Khan. She was given the title of Mumtaz Mahal (The chosen one of the palace) and Mallika-uz-Zamani. She died while giving birth to their child and Shah Jahan constructed the Taj Mahal in her memory.

### CONQUESTS:

- The first occasion for Khurram to test his military prowess was during the Mughal campaign (under Jahangir) against the Rajput state of Mewar, which had been a hostile force to the Mughals since Akbar's reign.
- In 1617, Khurram was directed to deal with the Lodhis in the Deccan to secure the Empire's southern borders and to restore imperial control over the region. His successes in these campaigns led to Jahangir granting him the title of Shah Jahan and raised his military rank.
- Shah Jahan annexed the Rajput kingdoms of Baglana, Mewar, and Bundelkhand. He then chose his 16-year-old son Aurangzeb to serve in his place and subdue the rebellion by the Bundela Rajputs led by Jhujhar Singh.
- In Deccan, Shah Jahan captured the fortress at Daulatabad, Maharashtra and imprisoned Husain Shah of the Nizam Shahi Kingdom of Ahmednagar. Between 1630 and 1636 Shah Jahan reduced the independent kingdoms of the Deccan. Ahmednagar was annexed in 1632 whereas Golkonda and Bijapur were forced to accept suzerainty in 1635 and 1636 respectively. However, after 1636, Golconda and Bijapur overran the fertile plains of the Karnataka area. This added to the rise of Marathas, upset the balance of power in Deccan.
- Shah Jahan and his sons captured the city of Kandahar in 1638 from the Safavids, prompting the retaliation of the Persians led by their ruler Abbas II of Persia, but ultimately lost it in 1649.
- In the northwest, Shah Jahan's army was unsuccessful. The attempt in 1647 to annex Balkh and Badakshan failed.

### ADMINISTRATION:

- The Mughal Empire continued to expand moderately during his reign as his sons commanded large armies on different fronts.
- India at the time was a rich center of the arts, crafts, and architecture, and some of the best of the architects, artisans, craftsmen, painters, and writers of the world resided in Shah Jahan's empire.
- His reign saw great famine of Deccan in 1632 described by English traveler Peter Mundi.

- Shah Jahan was not as religiously tolerant as his grandfather Akbar. In 1633, he started imposing Sharia law on the construction of churches and temples.
- A canal was dug out from the river Ravi for the irrigation of lands in the vicinity of Lahore and he also repaired the western Yamuna Canal which had been constructed by Firoz Shah Tughlaq. It was renamed by Shah Jahan as Nehr-I-Bahisht.
- The war of succession started even before Shah Jahan's death. He had fallen ill in 1658 when the struggle started. Aurangzeb started ruling the empire and put Shah Jahan under house arrest at the Agra Fort after he had recovered.

### ARCHITECTURE:

- Shah Jahan has been variously called 'Prince among builders' and 'Engineer King' on account of his love for architecture.
- He was one of the greatest patrons of Mughal architecture. His most famous building was the Taj Mahal, which he built out of love for his wife, the empress Mumtaz Mahal.
- **Taj Mahal:** Its structure was drawn with great care and architects from all over the world were called for this purpose.
  - Chief architect was Ustad Ahmad Lahori, who was honored with the title of Nadir-ul-Asar.
  - The building took twenty years to complete and was constructed from white marble brought from Makrana (Rajasthan).
  - The Taj Mahal was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983 for being "the jewel of Muslim art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage".
  - Shah Jahan used 'pietra dura' a method of decoration on a large scale—inlaid work of jewels.
- **Shahjahanabad city:** He built a new city of Shahjahanabad which included the palace cum fortress of Red Fort and Jama Masjid both built with red sandstone.
  - **Jama Masjid:** for the use of the royal family. High towers and domes are its special characteristics.
  - **Red Fort:** includes Diwan-i-aam, Diwan-i-Khas and Rang Mahal. The famous Persian poet Firdausi's quote "Gar Firdaus Barooey Zamin Ast, Hamin Asto—Hamin Asto, Hamin Asto"(If there is heaven anywhere on the earth, it is here, it is here, and it is here) is also inscribed on Diwan-i-Khas.
- **Moti Masjid (Pearl Mosque):** a mosque that is located inside Agra Fort and is regarded as "the purest and novelist house of prayer". There are three domes found on the top made with white marble. Generally, the mosques in the world have four steps in the podium and this mosque contains only three steps.
- **'Takhat-i-Tahus' (Peacock Throne):** This throne, a celebrated work of art was used for sitting in the court by Shah Jahan. The throne had an enameled canopy supported by 12 pillars, each of which bore two peacocks inlaid with gems. In 1739, Nadir Shah who invaded India carried it away with him to Persia.
- **Gardens:** Some of the famous gardens laid out by him are the Wazir Bagh in Kashmir, Shalimar Gardens near Lahore, the Talkatora Bagh and Shalimar Gardens at Delhi.

### ART & LITERATURE:

- Though Mughal painting continued to expand during the reign of Shah Jahan, the paintings that were displayed in the court became increasingly rigid and formal.
- However, he commissioned a large number of paintings meant to be his personal collection. These paintings were based on themes like gardens and pictures that gave great aesthetic pleasure.
- A new technique consisting of fine delicate lines drawing slightly tinted with washes of pale colors and gold-Syahi Qalam came into existence.

- Shah Jahan's courtier Abul Hamid Lahori wrote 'Padshanama'. The 'Padshanama,' which narrated the achievements of the King, contained several paintings of the courtiers and servants as well. The work was so elaborate that even servants were painted with amazing details that provided a great individuality to each and every character.
- In the reign of Shah Jahan, musicians such as Kavindra Acharya Saraswati and Jagatnath Pandit enjoyed royal patronage. Pandit Jagannath composed Ras-Gangadhar and Ganga Lahiri.
- Lal Khan, a musician in Shah Jahan's court was honored with the title of 'Gunsamudra'. Lal Khan was the son of legendary vina player Naubat Khan and the son in law of Tansen's son Bilas Khan.

#### DEATH:

- Shah Jahan was imprisoned in Red Fort of Agra and died there in a pathetic situation in January 1666. The body was taken to the Taj Mahal and was interred there next to the body of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal.
- Shah Jahan had reigned for thirty-one years, during this time the Empire reached the height of its glory and wealth.





## 11. MUGHALS - PART 6 - AURANGZEB (1658-1707)

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### INTRODUCTION:

- Muhi-ud-Din Muhammad, commonly known by the name of Aurangzeb (Ornament of the Throne) or by his regnal title 'Alamgir' (Conqueror of the World) was the sixth Mughal emperor, who ruled over almost the entire India for a period of 49 years.
- He was an accomplished military leader whose rule has been the subject of praise, though he has also been described as the most controversial ruler in Indian history.
- Aurangzeb was noted for his religious piety; he memorized the entire Quran, studied hadiths and stringently observed the rituals of Islam.
- Aurangzeb was a fanatic Sunni Muslim, whose chief aim was to convert India from Dar-ul-Harb (the land of Kafirs or infidels) to Dar-ul-Islam (country of Islam).
- Aurangzeb considered the royal treasury to be held in trust for the citizens of his empire, unlike his predecessors.
- Aurangzeb died as a frustrated and sad man and wrote letters to his sons. To prince Azam, he wrote, "I have not done well for the country and its people." To Kam Bakh, he wrote, "Strange that I came with nothing into this world and now go away with this stupendous caravan of sins."

### WAR OF SUCCESSION:

- Previously, wars were fought after the death of the emperor, this war was fought when Shah Jahan was yet alive.
- The four sons Dara Shikoh, Shah Shuja, Aurangzeb, and Murad Bux fought against each other, the sisters allied themselves with one or the other brother.
- Shah Jahan decided to appoint Dara, his eldest son as his successor. His other sons and several staunch Muslim Ulemas and nobles did not like Dara on account of his liberal religious views.
- **Battle of Samugarh:** Aurangzeb defeated Dara and eliminated other rivals as well. In this way, the war of succession ended with the victory of Aurangzeb.
- Shah Jahan was imprisoned and died there in a pathetic situation in January 1656. The body was taken to the Taj Mahal and was interred there next to the body of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal.

### CONQUESTS:

- He was a notable expansionist. During his reign, the Mughal Empire reached its greatest extent, from Kashmir in the North to Jinji in the South and from Hindukush in the West and Chittagong in the East.

- Aurangzeb was nominally in charge of the force sent to Bundelkhand with the intent of subduing the rebellious ruler of Orchha, Jhujhar Singh, who had attacked another territory in defiance of Shah Jahan's policy and was refusing to atone for his actions.
- Aurangzeb brought the Deccan kingdoms of Bijapur and Golconda under Mughal suzerainty.
- He was the first Mughal emperor who led the expedition and defeated Britishers in 1689.

<i>Revolt</i>	<i>Leader</i>	<i>Significance</i>
Marathas	Shivaji-Sambhaji-Rajaram-Tarabai	Deccan policy initially succeeded but ultimately Deccan ulcer ruined under Aurangzeb.
Jats (1669)	Gokula Singh -Raja Ram Jat - Badan Singh	After defeat Jats under Churaman and Badan Singh founded the kingdom of Bharatpur.
Satnamis (1672)	Birbhan Sadhji	Birbhan was monotheist and described God by the name of Satnam or Truth.
Sikhs	Guru Gobind Singh	After the execution of 9th Sikh guru, Guru Tegh Bahadur in 1675, Guru Gobind Singh founded Khalsa. He wrote a letter in Persian verses Zafarnama about revolt.
Ahom	Lachit Borphukan	Ahom Army defeated the Mughal Army in the battle of Saraighat in 1671.
Rathore Rajputs of Mewar	Durga Das Rathore	Rathors revolted as Aurangzeb incorporated Jodhpur into Khalisa land after the death of Jaswant Singh.

#### ADMINISTRATION:

- The system of administration under Aurangzeb remained substantially the same as in the days of Akbar or his immediate predecessors. But too much concentration of power in the hands of the emperor resulted in great administrative degeneration and helplessness.
- Aurangzeb's imperial bureaucracy employed significantly more Hindus than that of his predecessors. This was because of conquest in Deccan.
- Mughal cannon making skills advanced during the 17th century. One of the most impressive Mughal cannons is known as the Zafarbaksh.
- He forbade singing at court, abolished sati, jharokha darshan, cultivation of 'bhang' and drinking of alcohol.
- The textile industry in the Mughal Empire emerged very firmly during the reign of the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb and was particularly well noted by Francois Bernier, a French physician in the court of Mughal Emperor.
- The tax on the food grains was abolished so as to bring down the prices of the edibles.
- Francois Bernier provided in book 'Travels in the Mogul Empire' some of the first, impressive descriptions of the designs and the soft, delicate texture of Pashmina Shawls also known as *Kani*, which were very valued for their warmth and comfort among the Mughals, and how these textiles and shawls eventually began to find their way to France and England.

**RELIGIOUS POLICY:**

- During his reign, Aurangzeb ordered the destruction of many temples and some mosques. For example, he ordered the destruction of Vishvanath Temple at Varanasi for being a center of conspiracy against the state.
- He imposed *Jizya*, a military tax on non-Muslims who were not fighting for the Mughal Empire in his second decade of ruling in the year 1679.
- He abolished the solar calendar as it resembled the system of the fire-worshippers and upheld the lunar calendar.
- He created a separate department to enforce moral codes and Islamic law under a high-powered officer called Muhtasib.
- His invasions against the Deccan sultanates were partly due to his hatred of the Shia faith. He was also against the Sikhs and he executed the ninth Sikh Guru Tegh Bahadur in 1675.
- His religious policy was responsible for turning the Rajputs, Marathas, and Sikhs into the enemies of the Mughal Empire.
- He stopped the celebration of the Navroz festival which had been adopted by his predecessors from the Persian traditions. He also banned the celebration of Hindu festivals at the court.

**ART & ARCHITECTURE:**

- Unlike his father, Aurangzeb was not much interested in architecture.
- Aurangzeb constructed a small marble mosque known as the Moti Masjid (Pearl Mosque) in the Red Fort complex in Delhi.
- He ordered the construction of the Badshahi Mosque in Lahore and is now one of Pakistan's most iconic sights and a mosque in Banaras. The mosque he constructed in Srinagar is still the largest in Kashmir.
- A red sandstone Idgah in Mathura, also certainly sponsored by Aurangzeb. This Idgah, a mosque for the annual Id celebration, had replaced the temple of Keshava Deva, destroyed in 1669-70 by Aurangzeb's command to avenge on-going insubordination by Jats.
- **Bibi Ka Maqbara:** It is a tomb located in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India. It was commissioned in 1660 by the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb in the memory of his first and chief wife Dilras Banu Begum, also known by her posthumous title, Rabia-ud-Daurani (Rabia of the Age). It bears a striking resemblance to the Taj Mahal, Agra.
- The emperor Aurangzeb (1658–1707) did not encourage Mughal painting, and only a few portraits survive from his court.
- The most important literary work from his period was 'Fatwa-i-Alamgiri'—a digest of Muslim law. Other works were 'Muntakhab-ul-lubab'-a famous history by Khafi Khan and 'Nuskha-i- Dilkusha' by Bhimsen.

**CAUSES OF THE DOWNFALL OF MUGHALS:**

- **Aurangzeb's policies** - The process of the Mughal Empire's decay had begun from the time of Aurangzeb whose misguided policies weakened the stability of the Mughal polity.
  - He was ambitious and wanted to increase the geographical limits of his empire even though it cost him heavily in terms of men and money.
  - His hard-headed attitude towards the Marathas, Rajputs and the Jats and the refusal to grant them regional autonomy broke the former loyalty that existed between them and the Mughal Empire.
  - Mistake of imposing the central-ized system of governance in far-flung areas that were beyond his control.
  - His religious policy alienated the Hindus and the Muslims. The religious and Deccan policies of Aurangzeb contributed to its decline.

- **Jagirdari crisis** -Under the Mughal system, the mansabdars were either paid their salary in cash or granted jagirs in lieu of that. But the treasury was being exhausted and during the end of the reign of Aurangzeb, the crisis became acute and under the later Mughal emperors the system ultimately collapsed.
- The weak successors and demoralization of the Mughal army were also the reasons for the decline.
- The infighting between the nobles and their internal divisions.
- The financial difficulties due to continuous wars led to the decline.
- The neglect of the sea power by the Mughals was felt when the Europeans began to settle in India.
- Further, the invasions of Nadir Shah and Ahmad Shah Abdali weakened the Mughal state.



## 12. THE RISE OF MARATHAS : SHIVAJI (1630-1680)

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### INTRODUCTION:

- Shivaji Bhonsle was born in Shivneri to a great Maratha lady Jijabai, who was an ardent devotee of Shiva.
- Shivaji's father Shahaji Bhonsle was a Maratha general who served the Deccan Sultanates.
- He was brought up under the care and influence of his mother a pious lady, his guardian Dadoji Konddeva and religious and social reformers like Guru Ram Das.
- At the time of Shivaji's birth, the power in the Deccan region was shared by three Islamic sultanates: Bijapur, Ahmednagar, and Golkonda.
- He trained his soldiers in guerilla warfare. Guerilla warfare was very suitable in the geographical location of most territories in Maharashtra. He believed in the surprise attacks on the enemy, killed or looted it and disappeared into the forest.

### CONQUESTS:

- In 1646, Shivaji captured the hilly fort of Torana from Bijapur and after this, he captured the fort of Raigarh. Toran was the first conquest of Shivaji.
- In 1657, Adilshah, the Sultan of Bijapur sent Afzal Khan, a veteran general, to arrest Shivaji. But Shivaji killed him with his metal tiger claws.
- Shivaji's army marched towards the Konkan and Kolhapur, seizing Panhala fort, and defeating Bijapuri forces sent against them under Rustam Zaman and Fazl Khan in 1659.
- In 1676, Shivaji undertook an expedition into the Bijapur Karnataka. Shivaji was given a grand welcome by the Qutb Shah at his capital and a formal agreement was made.
  - According to which, Qutb Shah agreed to pay a subsidy of one lakh huns annually to Shivaji and a Maratha ambassador was to live at Qutb Shahi court.
  - Qutub Shah, further, supplied a contingent of troops and artillery to aid Shivaji and also provided money for the expenses of his army.
  - The treaty with Qutub Shah was beneficial to Shivaji, as it enabled him to capture Jinji and Vellore from Bijapur officials and also to conquer much of the territories held by his half-brother, Ekoji in south.
  - As per the agreement, Shivaji had to share treasure (won in the war) with Qutub Shah, but when Shivaji returned back to home with treasure, he refused to share anything with the Qutub Shah. Hence, Qutub Shah broke alliance with Shivaji.
  - Karnataka's expedition was the last expedition of Shivaji, as he died shortly after his return from the Karnataka expedition (1680).

### CONFLICT WITH MUGHALS:

- Shivaji carried out various expeditions that upset Aurangzeb who sent Shaista Khan (Aurangzeb's maternal uncle) to suppress them in 1660. Shaista Khan captured several forts including Poona and made it his headquarters. Shivaji carried out a daring attack on the camp of Shaista Khan in which Shivaji killed his sons and captured Poona. However, Shaista Khan escaped but was later transferred to Bengal by Aurangzeb.
- **Attack at Surat (1664):** Shivaji, emboldened by his success at Poona, launched a terrible attack on the Mughal port of Surat and got enormous wealth from this place.
- **Treaty of Purandar (1665):** Aurangzeb sent the Rajput Mirza Raja Jai Singh I of Amber to destroy Maratha power. Jai Singh forced Shivaji to come to the table by besieging Purandar. According to treaty, signed between Shivaji and Jai Singh on 11 June 1665 -
  - Shivaji agreed to give up 23 of his forts, keeping 12 for himself, and pay compensation of 400,000 gold hun to the Mughals.
  - Shivaji accepted the suzerainty of the Mughals but, instead of personal attendance at the court, deputed his son, Sambhaji with 5,000 horses at the Mughal-court.
  - Shivaji agreed to support the Mughals against Bijapur.
- **Visit Agra (1666):** Jai Singh persuaded Shivaji to visit Aurangzeb's court by holding out very high hopes to him.
  - He also took upon personal responsibility for his safety at Agra, the capital of the Mughal empire.
  - Aurangzeb made Shivaji stand behind *mansabdars* (military commanders) of his court.
  - On feeling insulted, he protested and was put under house arrest in Agra.
  - Shivaji managed to escape from Agra, likely by bribing the guards, though the emperor was never able to ascertain how he escaped despite an investigation.
- **After struggle:** The peace between Shivaji and the Mughals lasted until 1670. After that, the jagir of Berar which was granted to Sambhaji by the Mughals was taken back from him. In October 1670, Shivaji sacked Surat for the second time. Shivaji was able to recover all the forts and territory that he had to surrender in terms of the Treaty of Purandhar in 1665. Between 1670 and 1674, the Marathas got success everywhere.

### CORONATION OF SHIVAJI:

- The coronation ceremony was performed in 1674 at Raigarh by Vishweshwar Alias Gaga Bhatt, a renowned Pandit of Banaras. The priest also made a formal declaration that Shivaji was a high-class kshatriya and as an independent ruler, it now became possible for Shivaji to enter into treaties with Deccani Sultans.
- Shivaji assumed the title of Chhatrapati and Gau-Brahmana Prati Palak (Protector of Brahmans and Cows), Hindavi Dharmodhhaarak (redeemer of the Hindu dharma), Kshatriya-Kulavatansa (the jewel of the Kshatriya clan).
- It placed him on a much higher pedestal than any of the Maratha chiefs.

### ADMINISTRATION:

- Shivaji's system of administration was largely borrowed from the administrative practice of the Deccani states.
- Shivaji designated eight ministers, sometimes called the '*Ashtapradhan*' each minister being directly responsible to the ruler.
- **Peshwa:** looked after the finances and general administration.  
**Sar-i-Naubat:** Senapati or military commander, which was a post of honor.  
**Majumdar:** accountant, later revenue and finances.  
**Waqenavis:** responsible for intelligence, posts and household affairs.

**Surunavis or Chitnis:** helped the king with his correspondence.

**Dabir:** master of ceremonies and also helped the king in his dealings with foreign powers.

**Nyayadhis:** Incharge of justice.

**Panditrao:** charitable grants and religious affairs.

- Shivaji divided his kingdom into four provinces.
  - Each province was under the head called Mamlatdar or Viceroy.
  - Each province was divided into several districts and villages. The chief of the village was called Deshpande or Patel.
  - Like the center, there was a committee or council of eight ministers with 'Sar-i- Karkun' or the 'prantpati' (Head of the province).

### ARMY:

- Maratha cavalymen were known as Bargis and were paid from the state exchange.
- Shivaji preferred to give salaries in cash to the regular soldiers; however, sometimes the chiefs received revenue grants (*saranjam*).
- His army observed high morality. Shivaji made certain other regulations as well concerning the army which were strictly enforced.
- To kill or torture ladies and children, to loot the Brahmans, to spoil cultivation, etc. were punishable offenses even during the course of the war. No soldier was allowed to take his wife on the battlefield.
- Shivaji tried to develop a navy because he realized that without a navy, he would not be able to control the creeks on which places of trade and commerce were located. Shivaji's admiral Kanhoji Angre is called as the 'Father of Indian Navy'.

### REVENUE:

- The assessment of land revenue was based on measurement. The 'Kathi' of Malik Ambar of Ahmadnagar was adopted as the unit of measurement.
- Shivaji strictly regulated the "*mirasdars*," (*mirasdars* were those who had the hereditary rights of land). Later *mirasdars* grew and strengthened themselves by building strongholds and castles in the villages. Likewise, they had become unruly and seized the country. Shivaji destroyed their bastions and forced them to surrender.
- On the basis of assessment, the cultivators were asked to pay 40 percent of their produce as land revenue. The farmers had the option to pay land revenue in cash or kind.
- Shivaji introduced the collection of two taxes called the 'Chauth' and 'Sardeshmukhi'.
  - Chauth was one-fourth of the land revenue paid to the Marathas so as not to be subjected to Maratha raids.
  - Sardeshmukhi was an additional levy of 10 percent on those lands of Marathas which formed the part of the Mughal Empire.

### SOCIAL LIFE:

- Shivaji not only allowed Muslims to practice their religion without harassment, but supported their ministries with endowments, and had many prominent Muslims in his military service.
- He showed respect to the religious texts of all religions and he did not destroy mosques.
- Shivaji was the only Hindu ruler who protested against Jijya and wrote a letter to Aurangzeb against Jizya.
- In his court, Shivaji replaced Persian, the common courtly language in the region, with Marathi and emphasized Hindu political and courtly traditions.

- He even changed the names of the forts under his control to Sanskrit names to give credence to his Hindu rule such as Sindhudurg, Prachandgarh, and Suvarndurg.
- He introduced the Ryotwari system eliminating the need for middlemen between farmers and the state and collecting revenues directly from the manufacturers and producers.
- His administrative policies were subject-friendly and humane, and he encouraged the liberty of women in his rule.

#### DEATH AND SUCCESSION:

- Shivaji died at the age of 52 on April 3, 1680, at the Raigad Fort, after suffering from a bout of dysentery.
- He not only proved to be an able general, a skillful tactician, and shrewd diplomat, he also laid the foundation of a strong Maratha state by curbing the power of the Deshmukh.
- A conflict of succession arose after his death between his eldest son Sambhaji and his third wife Soyarabai on behalf of her 10-year old son Rajaram.





### 13. ADVENT OF EUROPEANS IN INDIA

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#### Why Europeans came to India?

- Trade-in commodities like cotton, calicoes, silk, various precious stones, porcelain, and handicrafts were the major reason which led to the advent of Europeans.
- India was the major source of the spices. Some spices have antibiotic properties and they were also used to preserve the food.
- Sea routes were discovered in order to reduce conflicts, taxation, etc. which were generally faced during land-based journeys.
- Industrialization greatly increased the economic, military, and political strength of European societies, along with government support and the need for market expansion to fulfill their capitalist desire.

#### PORTUGUESE:

- By the end of the 15th century, Portuguese sailor Vasco da Gama became the first European to re-establish direct trade links with India since Roman times by being the first to arrive by circumnavigating Africa (1497–1499).
- It was on May 20, 1498, that Portuguese sailor, Vasco da Gama arrived at Calicut. King Zamorin, the local ruler welcomed him and gave him a lot of higher privileges.
- After staying in India for a period of three months Vasco da Gama returned with a rich cargo which he sold in the European market at an exorbitant price- 60 times the cost of his voyage.
- But soon Vasco da Gama came back to India for the second time in 1501 AD. With the establishment of trade links, Calicut, Cannanore, and Cochin emerged the significant Portuguese centers in India.

#### Expansion by Portuguese:

- In 1502 AD, Vasco da Gama demanded that Zamorin should expel all the Muslim merchants settled there and to not allow them to trade. Zamorin rejected these demands.
- In 1505 AD, Francisco de Almeida was appointed as the first Portuguese governor in India. His policy being centric to controlling the Indian Ocean was known as the Blue Water Policy.
- Sultan of Egypt alarmed by the growing power of Portuguese sent a fleet towards India which was joined by the ruler of Gujarat, Calicut and also the rulers of Bijapur and Ahmednagar.

- Alfonso de Albuquerque who replaced Almeida as the governor in 1509 AD, captured Goa from the Sultan of Bijapur in 1510 AD and is considered the real founder of the Portuguese power in India. Subsequently, Goa became the capital of the Portuguese settlements in India in 1530 AD.
- This naval victory made the Portuguese navy supreme in the Indian Ocean and enabled the Portuguese to extend their operations towards the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea.
- Albuquerque advocated a policy of dominating the entire oriental commerce by setting up forts at various strategic places in Asia and Africa and supplemented by a strong navy.
- Portuguese strengthened their position by establishing a fort at Colombo in Sri Lanka, Achin in Sumatra, Malacca port, Socotra island at the mouth of the Red Sea and captured Aden.

#### **Conflict with Ottomans:**

- Ottoman ruler Sulaiman Rais ousted the Portuguese from the Red Sea in 1529 and sent a fleet to aid Bahadur Shah, ruler of Gujarat. In 1531, the Portuguese attacked Daman and Diu, but the Ottoman commander, Rumi Khan repulsed the attack. However, the Portuguese built a fort at Chaul lower down the coast.
- The Turkish threat to the Portuguese persisted for another two decades. A final Ottoman expedition was sent under Ali Rais in 1554. In 1566, the Portuguese and the Ottoman came to an agreement to share the oriental trade.

#### **Cartaze System:**

- From the beginning, the Portuguese King declared that trade in spices, drugs, dyes including indigo, copper, silver, gold, and arms to be royal monopolies. Even ships engaged in other commodities had to take permit or Cartaze from Portuguese officials.
  - In this way, Portuguese forced ships plying in the Indian Ocean towards east Africa and Malacca to pass through Goa and to pay tolls there.
- But soon Portuguese realized that traders who lost in sea forced their governments to retaliate against Portuguese trade in their areas.
- The Gujarat merchants who had extensive maritime links with the Arab Peninsula and East Africa never got cartaze as they demanded. As a result, Indian and Perso-Arab merchants suffered and eventually, their maritime trade declined.

#### **Decline:**

- On the eastern side, they gained some success because of the Japanese embargo on China and that of Spain on Muslim merchants. But on the western side, they could not attain much due to failure in winning Aden and North Sumatra, which provided passage to merchants who wanted to save themselves of Portuguese Cartaze.
- Portuguese influence declined in India by the end of the 16th century as naval and commercial powers of the French, English, and Dutch had given a strong competition to the Portuguese and Spanish trade monopoly.
- Religious policies of Portuguese were not favored in India as they were against Muslims and tried to promote Christianity.
- Around the 17th century, they had lost all their possessions in India except Goa, Diu, and Daman which they retained till 1961.

#### **ARRIVAL OF BRITISHERS:**

- Arrival of the British and the establishment of British East India Company was the outcome of the Portuguese traders who earn enormous profit by selling their merchandise in India.

- Being motivated by the successful business stories of the Portuguese a group of English merchants - 'Merchant Adventurers' formed a company- the East India Company in 1599 AD.
- The Company received a royal charter from Queen Elizabeth I on December 31, 1600 AD authorizing it to trade in the East. Queen was a shareholder in the East India Company.
- Subsequently, in 1608 AD, the East India Company sent Captain William Hawkins to the court of the Mughal emperor Jahangir to secure royal patronage. He succeeded in getting a royal permit for the Company to establish its factories at various places on the Western coast of India.
- The British Company gained foothold in India in 1612 when Mughal emperor Jahangir granted the rights to establish a factory in Surat to Sir Thomas Roe.

#### **Expansion by Britishers:**

- In 1639 AD, the East India Company obtained the lease of the city of Madras from the local king where it built Fort St. George to protect its factory. Later Madras was made the South Indian headquarters of the Company.
- The decisive moment came in 1662 AD, when Charles II of England married a Portuguese princess Katherine, and received the island of Bombay as dowry which he immediately gave to the East India Company in 1668 AD for 10 pounds per year. The Company on the West coast shifted its business headquarters from Surat to Bombay (Mumbai).
- After establishing its factories in the south and west India, the company started to focus on east India particularly Bengal a significant province Mughal empire.
- The governor of Bengal Sujauddaula in 1651 AD, allowed the English Company to carry out its trade activities in Bengal. A factory in Hugli was established and three villages -Sutanati, Govindapur, and Kolkata- were purchased in 1698 AD by the Company to build a factory over there. Subsequently, Fort William was raised in order to provide protection around the factory.

#### **Why the British emerged as the ruling power:**

- The loss of central authority in India after the decline of the Mughal empire with the death of Aurangzeb in 1707 AD
- The prevailing political disunity among the Indian rulers, for instance, they often seek assistance from the British for their own security, which gave a golden opportunity to the foreigners to increasingly meddle in their internal affairs and take advantage of their weaknesses.
- The victory in the Carnatic war prepared the ground for the British to establish their supremacy in India and the French dream of an Indian empire disappeared forever.
- Besides having skilled leaders like Sir Eyre Coote, Major Stringer Lawrence, Robert Clive on their side, the British were also a strong naval power which was a decisive factor with them to become credible rulers of India.

#### **ARRIVAL OF THE DUTCH:**

- The people of Holland (present Netherlands) are called the Dutch. Next to the Portuguese, the Dutch set their feet in India. Historically the Dutch have been experts in sea trade.
- In 1602, the United East India Company of the Netherlands was formed and given permission by the Dutch government to trade in the East Indies including India.
- Indonesian Islands of Java, Sumatra, and the Spice Islands where spices were produced, were the main interest of the Dutch.
- In 1667, the Dutch agreed to leave alone English settlements in India, while English gave up all claims to Indonesia.

**Expansion by Dutch:**

- The Dutch founded their first factory in Masulipatam in Andhra Pradesh in 1605.
- Subsequently, they also established trading centres in various parts of India. Dutch Surat and Dutch Bengal were established in 1616 AD and 1627 AD respectively.
- The Dutch conquered Ceylon from the Portuguese in 1656 AD. They also took the Portuguese forts on the Malabar coast in 1671 AD. The Dutch gradually became a potent force capturing by Nagapatam near Madras (Chennai) from the Portuguese thereby, establishing their foothold in South India.
- In economic terms, they earned huge profits through business monopolizing in black pepper and spices. The major Indian commodities traded by the Dutch were cotton, indigo, silk, rice, and opium.
- As their trade flourished they established mints at Cochin, Masulipattam, Nagapatam Pondicherry and Pulicat. Even more, Gold pagoda with an image of Lord Venkateswara (God Vishnu) was issued at Pulicat mint.
- Dutch commercial activities started to decline by the beginning of the 18th century and with the Battle of Bedera with the English in 1759 it came to an end.
- The short-sighted commercial policy which was mostly based on trade in spices was also a major cause of the decline of Dutch Power.

**ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH:**

- The last European people to arrive in India were the French. The French East India Company was formed in 1664 AD during the reign of King Louis XIV to trade with India.
- The French company was created, financed and controlled by the State and it differed from the English company which was a private commercial venture.
- In 1668 AD the French established their first factory at Surat and in 1669 AD established another French factory at Masulipatam.

**Expansion by French:**

- In 1673 AD the Mughal Subedar of Bengal allowed the French to set up a township at Chandernagore.
- In 1674 AD, the French obtained a village called Pondicherry from the Sultan of Bijapur and founded a thriving city on it which later became the main stronghold of the French in India.
- The French East India Company with the passage of time developed its trade bastions at Mahe, Karaikal, Balasore, and Qasim Bazar.
- From their arrival till 1741 AD, the objectives of the French, like those of the British, were purely commercial.
- The French East India Company took hold of Yanam in 1723 AD, Mahe on Malabar Coast in 1725 AD and Karaikal in 1739 AD.
- Duplex was an important French governor in India (1742). He began the policy of extending the territorial empire in India and started political occupations, leading to a series of conflicts with English in the form of Carnatic Wars. In the 18th century, three Carnatic Wars were fought between various Indian rulers and British and French East India Company on either side.
- Battle at Wandiwash against the East India Company in 1760 was the decisive battle for the French existence in India in which they lost almost all their possessions in India with a defeat in the battle.



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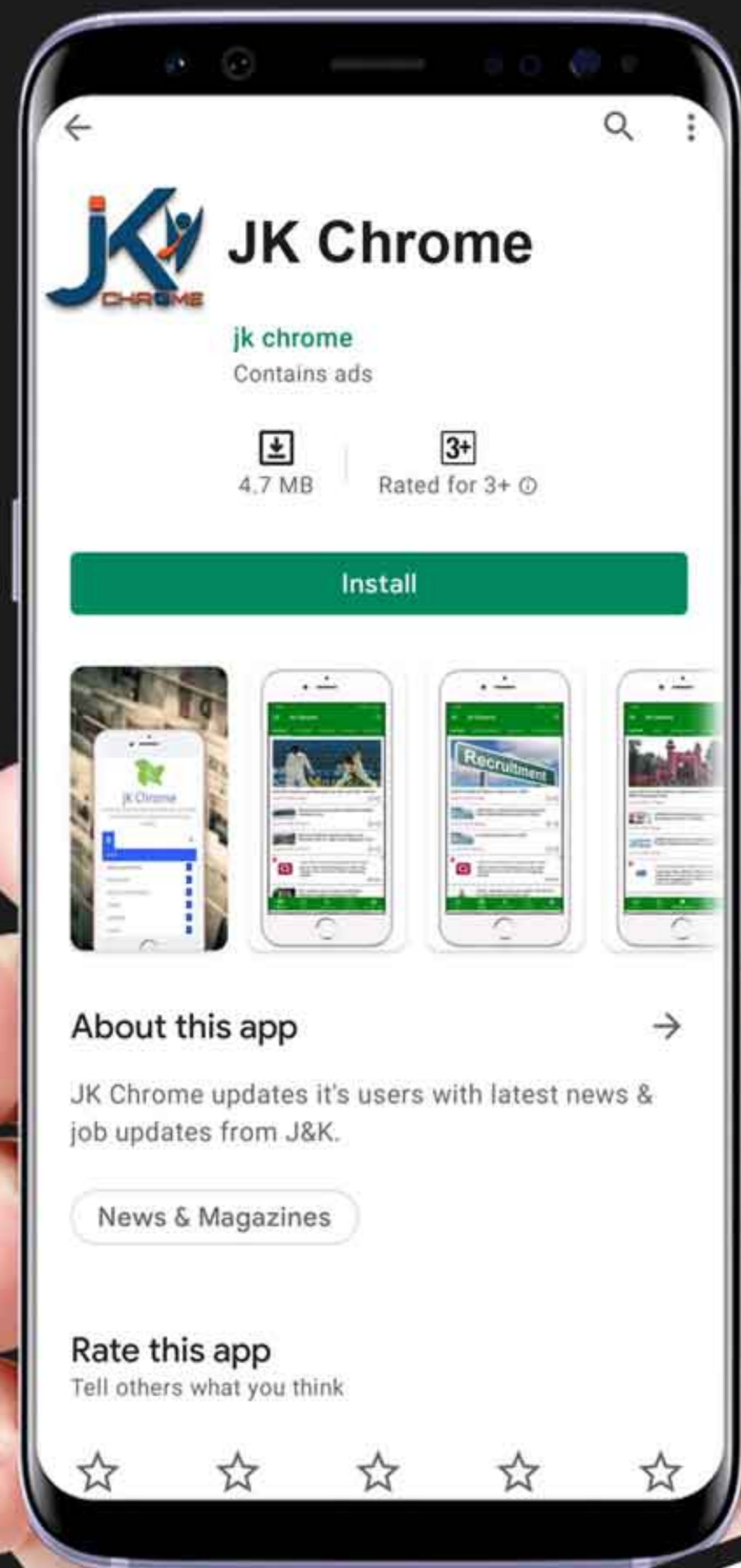
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