

CHAPTER – 5
MEDIEVAL PERIOD

CHAPTER - 5.1
DELHI SULATNATE

I. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN ONE WORD OR ONE SENTENCE EACH.

1. Who were the first among the Muslims to invade India?
A: The Arabs.

2. Name the famous book of Alberuni.
A: Kitab-ul-Hind.

3. Who was the founder of the slave dynasty?
A: Qutub-ud-din-Aibak.

4. Who was the founder of the Khilji dynasty?
A: Jalaludin Khilji.

5. Who was the commander of Alla-ud-din Khilji, who led the Southern campaign?
A: Malik Kafur.

6. Who was called 'The Parrot of India'?
A: Amir Khusru.

7. Who was the founder of the Tughlak dynasty?
A: Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq.

8. Who was the famous Sultan of Tughlak dynasty?
A: Muhammad-bin-Tughlak.

9. Who shifted the capital from Delhi to Devagiri?

A: Muhammad-bin-Tughlak.

10. Who introduced token currency?

A: Muhammad-bin-Tughlak.

11. Who commenced the construction of Qutub Minar at Delhi?

A: Qutub-din-Aibak.

II. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN TWO WORDS OR TWO SENTENCES EACH.

1. In which year did the second Battle of Tarain take place? Between whom was it fought?

A: a) 1192 CE.

b) between Prathviraj Chauhan and Mohammad Ghori.

2. Name any two dynasties of the Delhi Sultanate.

A: a) The Slave dynasty

b) The Khilji dynasty.

3. Name any two important monuments constructed by Alla-ud-din Khilji.

A: a) Hazar Situm

b) the fort of Siri.

4. Why did Alla-ud-din Khilji call himself as 'Sikandar'?

A: Alla-ud-din Khilji had an ambition to conquer the whole world like Alexander II. But he had to be satisfied in conquering India. So he called himself Sikander and issued coins with that title.

5. Name any two generals of Alla-ud-din Khilji.

A: a) Malik Kafur.

b) Ulugh Khan

6. Give any two causes for the transfer of capital by Muhammad-bin-Tughlak.

A: a) To safeguard the capital from Mongol invasions.

b) The proximity of Delhi to the border and the new capital being the centre of the empire.

7. Name two historians of the Tughlaq period.
A: a) Zia-ud-din Barani
b) Ibn Batuta.
8. Who started the writing of 'Tarik-i-Firozshahi'? Who completed it?
A: a) Zia-ud-din Barani started to write 'Tarik-i-Firozshahi'.
b) Shams-i-Siraj completed it.
9. Name two books of Amir Khusru.
A: a) Khazyan-ul-Futuh.
b) Tarkish-i-Alai.

III. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN 15 TO 20 SENTENCES EACH.

1. Write a note on the South Indian expedition of Alla-ud-din Khilji.
A: Alla-ud-din Khilji deputed his general Malik Kafur for the South Indian expedition. He was the first Muslim ruler to attempt the conquest of South India.
- a) Expedition to Devagiri:
Ramachandradeva, the king of Devagiri had given shelter to Karnadeva and his daughter Devaladevi and had also not paid the annual tribute for three years. Malik Kafur went to Devagiri with an army of 30,000 soldiers and defeated Ramachandradeva and captured Devaladevi. Ramachandradeva agreed to pay the annual tribute.
- b) Warrangal Expedition:
Malik Kafur marched towards Warrangal and besieged the fort of King Prataparudradeva of Warrangal. He was forced to surrender and sued for peace. Golden statue of King Prataparudradeva, 100 elephants, 7000 horses and large quantities of gold and silver jewels and money.
- c) Conquest of Dwarasamudra:
Malik Kafur attacked Dwarasamudra which was ruled by the Hoysala king Vira Ballalla III. It was looted. A number of temples were destroyed. Veera Ballalla III surrendered some elephants, horses, and treasure and agreed to pay annual tribute.
- d) Conquest of Madurai:
Malik Kafur marched towards Madurai during the time of a civil war and plundered all the important towns and temples. He reached till Rameshwaram and destroyed a temple and built a mosque there. He came back to Delhi with rich spoils.

e) Second Expedition to Devagiri:

Shankaradeva had withheld the annual tribute to the Sultan and tried to rule independently. So Malik Kafur marched against Devagiri and killed him. Devagiri was annexed to Delhi empire.

2. Explain the reforms of Alla-ud-din Khilji.

A: ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS:

Alla-ud-din Khilji set up a strong central government. He considered himself as a shadow of God on earth. He took measures for the prevention of rebellions, such as restricting matrimonial relations among nobles and officers, prohibiting secret meetings and parties, appointing spies to keep an eye on them, confiscating excess wealth, prohibiting wine and gambling etc.

MILITARY REFORMS:

- 1) He maintained a strong and huge army to safeguard his empire .
- 2) He introduced the system of branding of horses and maintaining a register of soldiers to avoid corrupt practices.
- 3) He abolished the Jagir system and paid salaries in cash.

REVENUE REFORMS:

- 1) He introduced scientific method of measurement of land for the assessment of land revenue.
- 2) He imposed heavy taxes on the Sardars, Jagirdars and Ulemas.
- 3) Jazia was imposed on non-Muslims.
- 4) Revenue officers were given more salaries to avoid corruption.

ECONOMIC REFORMS:

He introduced market regulation to help soldiers to make things affordable and appointed officers in this regard. Prices of all commodities of common use were fixed.

Grains were stored in government granaries for emergencies like times of scarcity and famine. Any vendor who cheated in weights and measurements was strictly punished.

3. Why is Muhammad-bin-Tughlak called a 'Mixture of Opposites'?

A: Muhammad-bin-Tughlak's character has been discussed greatly. Dr. V. A. Smith says that he was a "compound of contradictions". He was a learned scholar, excellent speaker, devoted Muslim and a talented calligraphist and possessed sound knowledge of astronomy, mathematics, philosophy and logic. But his policies, though well meant, were ill planned and badly executed. This is very clear from the instances where he shifted the capital from Delhi to Devagiri and when he increased the taxes in the Doab region and also when he introduced token currency reforms. All these made him very unpopular and gained him the reputation of being 'A mixture of opposites'.

IV. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN 30 TO 40 SENTENCES EACH.

1. Describe the achievements of Alla-ud-din Khilji.

A: CONQUEST OF NORTH INDIA:

a) Conquest of Gujarat:

Ulugh Khan and Nazarath Khan, the generals of Alla-ud-din Khilji, attacked Gujarat and looted the wealth. King Karnadeva fled to Devagiri with his daughter Devaladevi. Alla-ud-din Khilji married Kamaladevi, the queen of Karnadeva.

b) Conquest of Rathambore:

Raja Hamira Deva had given shelter to some Neo-Muslims, which offended Alla-ud-din Khilji. His generals invaded Rathambore and captured it.

c) Conquest of Mewar:

Alla-ud-din Khilji wanted to carry away Padmini, the beautiful wife of Rana Ratan Singh, the King of Mewar. When defeat seemed certain, Padmini and other Rajput women committed 'Jauhar'. Chittor was captured.

Other Conquests:

Alla-ud-din Khilji went on to conquer Malwa, Ujjain, Mandu, Chanderi, Dhar and Jolur .

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Alla-ud-din Khilji also introduced a number of reforms. They were:

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2. Critically examine the administrative experiments of Mohammad-bin-Tughlak.

A: The administrative experiments of Mohammad-bin-Tughlak are:

1) Increase of taxes in Doab:

Since the area between the river Ganges and Yamuna (Doab), was very fertile, Mohammad-bin-Tughlak decided to increase the taxes in this area, to enhance the revenues of his empire. But the tax hike was too steep and was introduced at a time when lack of rainfall had already created problems. Hence the farmers suffered greatly and this made Mohammad-bin-Tughlak very unpopular.

2) Transfer of Capital:

To safeguard the capital from the Mongol invasions, the Sultan decided to shift the capital from Delhi to Devagiri. He built a new city near Devagiri, named it as Daulatabad. The other causes for shifting were the proximity of Delhi to the border and that the new capital would be the centre of the empire. He decided to shift the entire population. Not even a cat or dog was left. Even a blind or crippled man was dragged to the new capital. The journey was too tiresome and they had to pass through dense forests, heavy rains, diseases, dacoits, attacks, hunger etc. and resulted in the death and sufferings of people. Realizing he had made a mistake, he ordered all the people to march back to Delhi, again causing more casualties. This also made him unpopular.

3) Token Currency reforms:

Mohammad-bin-Tughlak carried out experiments on coinage and currency. His aim was to save the precious metals like gold and silver and introduce more money in circulation. So he issued copper coins in the same value as a silver tanka. Minting the copper coins was not retained as a monopoly of the government. Hence the empire was flooded with thousands of counterfeit copper coins. People paid taxes with these coins and these coins lost their value as a medium of exchange. Trade suffered a lot. The Sultan recalled the copper coins. The people were asked to exchange their copper coins with gold and silver coins which left the royal treasury empty. Thus the currency reform also failed.

3. Give an account of the contributions of Sultanate of Delhi.

A: 1) Administration:

The Kingdom of Delhi sultanate was a theocratic state and the Shariat (Islamic Law) were the rules of the state.

- Central Government: The Sultan was the fountain-head of administration. He exercised legislative, executive and judicial powers. He was guided by the Ulemas (a body of Islamic scholars). There were ministers who were in charge of various departments to help the Sultan.
- Justice: The Sultan administered justice with the help of Kazi-Ul-Qazat (the Chief Justice). He was helped by a Mufti (interpreter of Islamic Law). Kotwal was the police officer in charge of law and order.

- Army: The Sultan maintained a strong army, that consisted of cavalry, infantry, and elephant forces. He was the supreme commander and Sulatanate was primarily a military state.
- Provincial Administration:
The Sultanate was divided into provinces called 'Iqtas' each placed under a governor. He maintained an army of his own and enjoyed absolute powers in his province.

2) Literature:

This period witnessed the growth of Persian and Vernacular literature. Amir Khusru was the most outstanding writer. He was called 'Parrot of India'. Khazyan-ul-Futuh and Tarkish-i-Alai were his works. Badr-ud-din, Maulana Muyyin-ud-din, Umrani and Hassan Nizami were some great Persian writers. Zia-ud-din Barani and Ibn Batuta were great historians of this period. Mohammad-bin-Tughlak and Firoz Shah Tughlak were great scholars. Chand Bardai wrote "Prithviraja Raso" and Malik Mohammad Jaysi wrote 'Padmavati'.

4) Art and Architecture:

They developed Indo-Islamic architecture. It was a synthesis of two religious ideals, Hinduism and Islam. The important features of this are minarets, arches, domes, hazaras, large gate ways etc. Qutub Minar was the greatest achievement of this period. Jami Masjid and Shamsi Idgah was built by Iltumash. Alla-ud-din Khilji built the palace of Hazar situm and the fort of Siri. Firoz Shah built the cities of Firozabad, Fatehbad etc.