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HISTORY - History of India from 1206 to 1526 CE – DSC 152



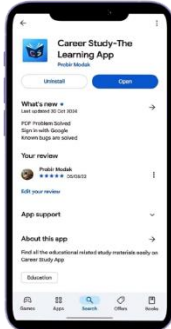
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ABOUT CAREER STUDY:

Career Study is a forward-thinking educational platform designed to empower students across India, with a special focus on the Northeast region. Recognized as a "**Startup**" under the Assam Startup Policy 2016 by the Government of Assam and officially registered under the MSME, Government of India.



At Career Study, we believe in creating opportunities, fostering growth, and inspiring success—one student at a time.

ABOUT THE FOUNDER:

Probir Modak, the founder of Career Study, is an educator and entrepreneur from Silcoorie Camp and currently residing in Silchar, Kathal Road, Probir brings over 8 years of teaching experience and a deep passion for empowering students. His journey began at Assam University, Silchar.



Probir's achievements are deeply rooted in the unwavering support of his family, especially his mother (MAA), whose encouragement and guidance have been pivotal in his journey. Armed with a Master's degree in Economics from Assam University, Silchar.

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HISDSC152T**HISTORY OF INDIA FROM 1206 - 1526 CE****Full Marks = 100 [ESE (70)]**

UNIT I

- i). Sources of Medieval Indian History: Literary & Archaeology
- ii) Qutb-ud-din Aibek: Career and achievements.
- iii) Political Consolidation: Iltutmish
- iv) Ghiyasuddin Balban: Theory of Kingship.

Unit II

- i) Conquests of Alauddin Khalji
- ii) Economic measures of Alauddin Khalji
- iii) Reforms of Muhammad Bin Tughluq
- iv) Contribution of Firoz Shah Tughluq

Unit III

- i) Timur's Invasion and its Consequences
- ii) Political history under the Sayyids: Khizar Khan, Mubarak Shah
- iii) Political history under the Lodis. Sikander Lodi, Ibrahim Lodi
- iv) The First Battle of Panipat: Causes and Consequences

Unit IV

- i) Vijayanagar Empire: Emergence of Vijayanagara Kingdom, Achievements of Krishnadevaraya.
- ii) Accounts of Foreign Travellers on Vijayanagara.
- iii) Bahamani Empire: Rise and Growth,
- iv) Vijayanagara and Bahamani Relations

Unit V

- i) Bhakti Movement: Kabir, Nanak, Chaitanya, Srimanta Sankardev
- ii) Administration of Delhi Sultanate
- iii) Sufi Movements
- iv) The downfall of the Delhi Sultanate



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UNIT – 1

ONE MARK:

1. **What are the two main sources of Medieval Indian History?**
 - Literary and Archaeological sources.
2. **Name one important literary source of Medieval Indian History.**
 - Minhaj-us-Siraj's *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*.
3. **What is the significance of inscriptions in Medieval Indian history?**
 - Inscriptions provide official records of rulers, administration, and achievements.
4. **Which Persian historian wrote *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi*?**
 - Ziauddin Barani.
5. **Who founded the Delhi Sultanate?**
 - Qutb-ud-din Aibek.
6. **What was Qutb-ud-din Aibek's original position before becoming a ruler?**
 - He was a slave of Muhammad Ghori.
7. **Which famous monument was started by Qutb-ud-din Aibek?**
 - Qutb Minar.
8. **What was Qutb-ud-din Aibek's title?**
 - *Lakh Baksh* (giver of lakhs).
9. **How did Qutb-ud-din Aibek die?**
 - He fell from a horse while playing *Chaugan* (polo).
10. **Who succeeded Qutb-ud-din Aibek?**
 - Iltutmish.
11. **Which ruler is considered the real consolidator of the Delhi Sultanate?**
 - Iltutmish.
12. **What was Iltutmish's major administrative reform?**
 - Introduction of the *Iqta* system.
13. **Which dynasty did Iltutmish belong to?**
 - Slave (Mamluk) Dynasty.
14. **What was the significance of the *Chalisa* during Iltutmish's reign?**
 - It was a group of 40 powerful Turkish nobles.
15. **Who was the first Sultan of Delhi to receive recognition from the Abbasid Caliph?**



- Iltutmish.
- 16. **Which Delhi Sultan introduced the Theory of Kingship?**
 - Ghiyasuddin Balban.
- 17. **What was Balban's policy towards the nobility?**
 - He strictly controlled them to strengthen the monarchy.
- 18. **Which Persian concept influenced Balban's kingship theory?**
 - *Zill-e-Ilahi* (Shadow of God).
- 19. **What was Balban's main military policy?**
 - Suppression of the Mongols and internal rebellions.
- 20. **Which Delhi Sultan introduced the concept of *Niyabat-e-Khudai* (Deputy of God)?**
 - Ghiyasuddin Balban.

TWO MARK:

1. **What are the main sources of Medieval Indian history?**

Medieval Indian history is primarily derived from two sources: **Literary sources** and **Archaeological sources**. Literary sources include Persian chronicles, court records, and biographies such as *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri* by Minhaj-us-Siraj and *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi* by Ziauddin Barani. Archaeological sources consist of inscriptions, coins, monuments like Qutb Minar, and contemporary paintings.
2. **What is the significance of literary sources in understanding Medieval Indian history?**

Literary sources provide detailed accounts of rulers, administration, society, and culture. Persian historians like Barani and Isami recorded political events, while travelers like Ibn Battuta gave firsthand accounts. However, these sources often reflected biases favoring the ruling class.
3. **What are the different types of archaeological sources?**

Archaeological sources include **inscriptions, coins, monuments, and artifacts**. Inscriptions help in understanding official decrees, while coins indicate economic conditions. Monuments like the Qutb Minar and Alai Darwaza reveal architectural advancements, and artifacts give insight into daily life.
4. **Who was Qutb-ud-din Aibek, and what was his role in Indian history?**

Qutb-ud-din Aibek was a former slave of Muhammad Ghori who became the first ruler of the Delhi Sultanate in 1206 CE. He laid the foundation of the Slave Dynasty and is credited with starting the construction of Qutb Minar. His rule was short (1206–1210), but he established Turkish dominance in North India.
5. **Why is Qutb-ud-din Aibek called *Lakh Baksh*?**

Qutb-ud-din Aibek earned the title *Lakh Baksh* (giver of lakhs) due to his generous donations to scholars and the poor. He was known for his charitable nature and patronage of literature and architecture.



6. **What were the architectural contributions of Qutb-ud-din Aibek?**
Qutb-ud-din Aibek started the construction of the **Qutb Minar** in Delhi, which was later completed by Iltutmish. He also built the **Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque**, the first mosque in Delhi, using materials from demolished Hindu and Jain temples.
7. **How did Qutb-ud-din Aibek die?**
Qutb-ud-din Aibek died in 1210 CE after falling from a horse while playing **Chaugan** (polo). His sudden death led to a brief succession crisis before Iltutmish took over.
8. **Who was Iltutmish, and why is he considered the real founder of the Delhi Sultanate?**
Iltutmish was the son-in-law of Qutb-ud-din Aibek and became Sultan in 1211 CE. He consolidated Turkish rule, defeated rival factions, introduced the **Iqta system**, and shifted the capital from Lahore to Delhi. He also obtained formal recognition from the Abbasid Caliph, solidifying his legitimacy.
9. **What was the Iqta system introduced by Iltutmish?**
The **Iqta system** was a land revenue system where military officers (*Iqtadars*) were assigned land in exchange for maintaining troops. The revenue from these lands funded the army and administration. This system helped in efficient governance and military expansion.
10. **Why did Iltutmish refuse to give shelter to Jalaluddin Mangabarni?**
Iltutmish refused shelter to **Jalaluddin Mangabarni**, the Khwarazmian prince, fearing Mongol retaliation. This decision prevented an early Mongol invasion of India and showed Iltutmish's diplomatic skills.
11. **What was Iltutmish's policy towards the Mongols?**
Iltutmish followed a policy of **diplomatic neutrality** towards the Mongols. He neither provoked them nor provided refuge to their enemies. This helped in maintaining peace along the northwestern borders.
12. **How did Iltutmish secure recognition from the Abbasid Caliph?**
In 1229 CE, Iltutmish received a **robe of honor and a formal letter of recognition** from the Abbasid Caliph in Baghdad. This gave him legitimacy as the ruler of India and strengthened the authority of the Delhi Sultanate.
13. **Who were the 'Chalisa' under Iltutmish's rule?**
The **Chalisa (or Forty Nobles)** was a group of powerful Turkish aristocrats who played a significant role in administration. They helped Iltutmish strengthen the Delhi Sultanate but later became a challenge for his successors.
14. **What was the succession issue after Iltutmish's death?**
Iltutmish wanted his daughter **Razia Sultana** to succeed him, but the nobles opposed a female ruler. His son **Ruknuddin Firuz** became Sultan but was weak, leading to Razia's eventual rise to power.
15. **Who was Ghiyasuddin Balban, and what was his theory of kingship?**
Ghiyasuddin Balban was a powerful ruler of the Slave Dynasty (1266–1287 CE). His **theory of kingship** emphasized **absolute monarchy, divine right, and the king as the 'Shadow of God' (Zill-e-Ilahi)**. He maintained strict discipline and crushed noble conspiracies.
16. **What was Balban's policy towards the nobility?**
Balban followed a policy of **strict control over nobles**. He destroyed the power of the Chalisa



group, implemented **blood and iron policy**, and punished disloyal nobles to strengthen his authority.

17. What was Balban's 'Blood and Iron Policy'?

Balban's **Blood and Iron Policy** was a strict governance method that focused on harsh punishments, eliminating conspiracies, and maintaining law and order. He executed rebellious nobles and ensured the Sultan's absolute authority.

18. How did Balban deal with Mongol invasions?

Balban strengthened frontier defenses and deployed a strong military to protect Delhi from Mongol invasions. His tough stance ensured that Mongols did not advance beyond Punjab.

19. What role did Balban's spy system play in his administration?

Balban maintained an efficient **spy network (Barid system)** to monitor nobles and prevent rebellions. His spies reported directly to him, allowing him to crush conspiracies before they escalated.

20. How did Balban justify his strict rule?

Balban claimed that a strong and fearsome ruler was necessary to maintain order. He compared the Sultan's authority to **divine will** and declared himself the '**Shadow of God**' (**Zill-e-Ilahi**).

21. What was Balban's contribution to the military system?

Balban strengthened the army by recruiting Turkish soldiers, improving cavalry, and building strong forts along the northwest frontier to check Mongol invasions.

22. How did Balban treat common people and local rulers?

Balban was strict with nobles but ensured justice for common people. He crushed local revolts and maintained law and order to establish a strong centralized government.

23. What was Balban's foreign policy?

Balban followed an **isolationist policy**, avoiding unnecessary conflicts with neighboring kingdoms while focusing on internal stability and defense.

24. What led to the decline of Balban's rule?

Balban's rule declined due to the **death of his capable son, Prince Muhammad**, and his inability to produce a strong successor. After his death in 1287, the Slave Dynasty weakened.

25. What was Balban's greatest achievement as Sultan?

His greatest achievement was **establishing a strong, centralized monarchy** and securing the Delhi Sultanate from Mongol invasions.

26. Why is the Delhi Sultanate's rule (1206–1526 CE) called the "Turkish Rule"?

The Delhi Sultanate was established by rulers of **Turkish origin**, starting with Qutb-ud-din Aibek, a former slave of Muhammad Ghori. The early rulers, including Iltutmish and Balban, were all **Turkic slaves or nobles**, making it a Turkish-dominated empire.

27. What was the role of Minhaj-us-Siraj in Medieval Indian history?

Minhaj-us-Siraj was a **Persian historian** who wrote *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*, an important source for the history of the **Slave Dynasty**. His work provides details about Qutb-ud-din Aibek, Iltutmish, and Razia Sultana, though it reflects his bias against female rulers like Razia.



28. What are the major Persian chronicles of the Delhi Sultanate?

Important Persian chronicles include:

- *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri* by Minhaj-us-Siraj
- *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi* by Ziauddin Barani
- *Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi* by Yahya bin Ahmad Sirhindi

These records provide detailed accounts of political events and administration.

29. What was the political significance of Lahore under Qutb-ud-din Aibek?

Lahore was the **initial capital** of Qutb-ud-din Aibek before Iltutmish shifted the capital to Delhi. Lahore served as an administrative center, strengthening Turkish control in the Punjab region.

30. How did Iltutmish consolidate power after becoming Sultan?

Iltutmish eliminated rival claimants, secured the throne with military strength, defeated Yaldiz and Qabacha, and gained legitimacy by obtaining **investiture from the Abbasid Caliph**. He also introduced the **Iqta system** to improve governance.

31. Why was Iltutmish's decision to make Delhi the capital important?

Iltutmish **shifted the capital from Lahore to Delhi** to establish a **centralized administration** and secure control over North India. Delhi's location was strategically advantageous for governance, military defense, and trade.

32. What was the significance of Iltutmish's Silver Tanka currency?

Iltutmish introduced the **Silver Tanka**, which became the standard currency of the Delhi Sultanate. This improved trade, standardized the economy, and marked a significant monetary reform in medieval India.

33. Why did Balban emphasize the concept of 'Royal Dignity'?

Balban believed that a **king should be feared and respected** to maintain stability. He avoided public interactions, introduced the Persian courtly custom of **Sijdah (prostration before the king)**, and strictly controlled the nobles to uphold royal authority.

34. What role did the Turkish Nobility play in the Delhi Sultanate?

The Turkish Nobility, especially the **Chalisa (group of 40 nobles)**, held significant power during the early Sultanate. They played a key role in selecting and dethroning rulers, but their dominance was later curbed by Iltutmish and Balban.

35. What led to the decline of the Slave Dynasty?

The Slave Dynasty declined due to:

- **Weak successors** after Balban's death in 1287 CE
- **Noble factionalism**, which led to instability
- **Mongol threats**, which weakened military strength
- The rise of the **Khilji Dynasty** under Jalaluddin Khilji in 1290 CE

BOARD ANSWER:

1. Discuss the literary and archaeological sources of Medieval Indian history.

Introduction

The study of Medieval Indian history (1206–1526 CE) is based on both **literary sources** (written records) and **archaeological sources** (monuments, inscriptions, coins, etc.). These sources help historians reconstruct the political, social, and cultural developments of the Delhi Sultanate period.

Literary Sources

1. **Persian Chronicles** – Many rulers of the Delhi Sultanate patronized historians who wrote official records in Persian. Some important works include:
 - *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri* by Minhaj-us-Siraj, covering early Turkish rulers.
 - *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi* by Ziauddin Barani, describing Alauddin Khilji and Muhammad bin Tughlaq's reigns.
 - *Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi* by Yahya bin Ahmad Sirhindi, covering the Sayyid and Lodi dynasties.
2. **Biographies & Travel Accounts** – Personal memoirs and foreign travelogues also provide insights into medieval India:
 - *Futuh-i-Firoz Shahi* (autobiography of Firoz Shah Tughlaq)
 - *Rehla* by Ibn Battuta, giving a foreign traveler's perspective on India under Muhammad bin Tughlaq.
3. **Religious & Literary Works** – Many Sufi saints and poets wrote about society, culture, and politics. Examples include:
 - Amir Khusrau's Persian poetry, reflecting courtly life.
 - Al-Biruni's *Kitab-ul-Hind*, detailing Indian traditions.

Archaeological Sources

1. **Monuments** – The Delhi Sultanate built several structures reflecting Indo-Islamic architecture, such as:
 - **Qutb Minar** (built by Qutb-ud-din Aibek, completed by Iltutmish).
 - **Alai Darwaza** (constructed by Alauddin Khilji).
2. **Inscriptions** – Several Persian and Arabic inscriptions on monuments record achievements of rulers. Example: The **Iron Pillar of Delhi** bears Sanskrit inscriptions about early rulers.
3. **Coins** – The introduction of **Silver Tanka and Copper Jital** by Iltutmish standardized currency, helping in economic study.

Conclusion

The combination of **written records, monuments, coins, and inscriptions** provides a well-rounded view of medieval Indian history, helping historians understand the governance, economy, and society of the Delhi Sultanate period.



2. Write a short note on the achievements of Qutb-ud-din Aibek.

Introduction

Qutb-ud-din Aibek was the **founder of the Delhi Sultanate** and ruled from **1206 to 1210 CE**. He was a **Turkish slave** who rose to power after the death of Muhammad Ghori. Though his rule was short, he laid the foundation for Turkish rule in India.

Political Achievements

- After Muhammad Ghori's assassination (1206), Aibek **declared independence** and established the **Slave Dynasty**.
- He successfully defended his rule against rivals like **Tajuddin Yaldiz (Ghori's governor in Ghazni)** and **Nasiruddin Qabacha (ruler of Multan and Sindh)**.
- Aibek expanded his territory in North India, controlling **Delhi, Ajmer, Lahore, and Bengal**.

Military Achievements

- He strengthened his military by recruiting **Turkish officers and cavalry**.
- He fought against **Rajput rulers**, defeating them in multiple battles.

Architectural & Cultural Achievements

- Aibek **started the construction of the Qutb Minar** in Delhi, though it was completed by his successor, Iltutmish.
- He also built **Adhai Din Ka Jhopra** in Ajmer, a mosque converted from a Sanskrit college.

Death & Legacy

- He died in **1210 CE** due to a fall from his horse while playing polo.
- Though his rule lasted only **four years**, he successfully **established Muslim rule in India**, which was continued by Iltutmish and later rulers.

Conclusion

Qutb-ud-din Aibek played a crucial role in shaping the early **Delhi Sultanate**. His leadership ensured the survival of Turkish rule, and his successors built on his foundation to create a strong empire.

3. Explain the political consolidation of Iltutmish.

Introduction

Iltutmish (1211–1236 CE) was the **third ruler of the Slave Dynasty** and is regarded as the true **founder of the Delhi Sultanate**. He consolidated power through **military campaigns, administrative reforms, and diplomatic strategies**.

Challenges Faced by Iltutmish

- He had to **defeat rivals** like **Tajuddin Yaldiz** (ruler of Ghazni) and **Nasiruddin Qabacha** (governor of Multan and Sindh).



- He faced **Mongol invasions**, which threatened Delhi's stability.
- The **Chalisa (group of 40 Turkish nobles)** opposed his rule.

Steps Taken for Political Consolidation

1. **Defeating Rivals** – Iltutmish crushed Yalviz (1216) and Qabacha (1228), securing his position.
2. **Diplomatic Success** – He gained **recognition from the Abbasid Caliph** in 1229, strengthening his legitimacy as Sultan.
3. **Administrative Reforms** –
 - Introduced the **Iqta system** (land grants to military officials).
 - Developed an efficient **revenue system** for economic stability.
4. **Capital Shift** – Moved the **capital from Lahore to Delhi**, making it the power center of North India.
5. **Architectural Contributions** – Completed the **Qutb Minar** and built mosques to establish Islamic culture.

Conclusion

Iltutmish's **military, administrative, and diplomatic skills** helped him consolidate power. His reign laid the foundation for a **stable Delhi Sultanate**, allowing his successors to govern effectively.

4. Explain Balban's Theory of Kingship.

Introduction

Ghiyasuddin Balban (1266–1287 CE) was a powerful ruler of the **Slave Dynasty** who believed in **absolute monarchy**. His **Theory of Kingship** emphasized **royal authority, discipline, and divine rule**.

Key Features of Balban's Theory of Kingship

1. **Divine Right of Kingship** – Balban claimed that the **king was the representative of God** on Earth and should be obeyed without question.
2. **Royal Dignity & Authority** – He introduced **Persian courtly customs** like **Sijdah (prostration before the king)** and **Paibos (kissing the king's feet)** to increase royal prestige.
3. **Strict Nobility Control** –
 - He **eliminated rebellious nobles** and strengthened the power of the Sultan.
 - He destroyed the **Chalisa (Group of 40 nobles)** to remove opposition.
4. **Strong Centralized Administration** – He ensured that all administrative decisions were taken by the **Sultan alone**, reducing noble influence.
5. **Military Strength** – He maintained a **large, disciplined army** to defend against **Mongols** and suppress internal revolts.

Conclusion

Balban's theory of kingship **established a strong, centralized monarchy** in Delhi. His strict governance ensured stability, making him one of the most powerful rulers of the **Slave Dynasty**.

5. Discuss the causes for the establishment of the Delhi Sultanate.

Introduction

The Delhi Sultanate was established in **1206 CE** after Qutb-ud-din Aibek declared independence following **Muhammad Ghori's death**. Several factors contributed to the foundation of Turkish rule in India.

Causes for the Establishment

1. Military Superiority –

- The Turks possessed **better cavalry and advanced warfare techniques**.
- Their **archery and speed of movement** gave them an advantage over Indian rulers.

2. Weakness of Indian Rulers –

- Rajput rulers were divided and constantly **engaged in internal conflicts**.
- Lack of unity among Indian kings allowed **Muhammad Ghori and his successors** to take advantage.

3. Political Instability –

- After the fall of the **Ghaznavid Empire**, the Indian subcontinent lacked a **strong centralized power**.
- The defeat of **Prithviraj Chauhan in the Second Battle of Tarain (1192)** paved the way for Turkish rule.

4. Strategic Location of Delhi –

- Delhi was centrally located and provided a **stronghold for further expansion** into India.
- The city had **fertile land and trade routes**, which helped in economic stability.

5. Strong Leadership –

- Qutb-ud-din Aibek and his successors like **Iltutmish and Balban** laid a strong foundation for the Delhi Sultanate.

Conclusion

The establishment of the Delhi Sultanate was the result of **military strength, political instability, and strategic leadership**. This marked the beginning of Muslim rule in India, which lasted for several centuries.

6. Explain the role of Iltutmish in strengthening the Delhi Sultanate.

Introduction

Iluttmish (1211–1236 CE) is considered the **real founder of the Delhi Sultanate**. He **consolidated Turkish rule** in India through **military, administrative, and economic reforms**.

Role in Strengthening the Sultanate

1. Military Consolidation –

- He defeated **Tajuddin Yaldiz (ruler of Ghazni)** and **Nasiruddin Qabacha (Multan and Sindh)**.
- He controlled **Rajput resistance** and secured Delhi's boundaries.

2. Administrative Reforms –

- Introduced the **Iqta system**, granting land to officials in exchange for military service.
- Developed a **strong revenue system** to finance administration.

3. Recognition from Abbasid Caliph –

- In **1229 CE**, he received a **letter of investiture** from the **Abbasid Caliph**, making him the **legitimate ruler** of India.

4. Control Over Nobility –

- He established the **Chalisa (Group of 40 Turkish nobles)** to strengthen central authority.
- This helped him **curb noble rebellions**.

5. Architectural Contributions –

- Completed the **Qutb Minar** in Delhi.
- Constructed **mosques and administrative buildings**.

Conclusion

Iluttmish's **military, administrative, and diplomatic strategies** made him the strongest ruler of the Slave Dynasty. His efforts ensured the survival and expansion of the Delhi Sultanate.

7. Discuss the impact of Balban's policies on the Delhi Sultanate.

Introduction

Ghiyasuddin Balban (1266–1287 CE) was one of the most **powerful rulers of the Slave Dynasty**. His strict policies ensured **stability and discipline** in the Delhi Sultanate.

Impact of Balban's Policies

1. Strengthening the Monarchy –

- He introduced the **Theory of Kingship**, claiming that the Sultan was the **shadow of God (Zill-e-Ilahi)**.
- Enforced **Sijdah (prostration before the king)** and **Paibos (kissing the feet of the king)**.



2. Suppression of Nobles –

- He **eliminated the Chalisa (Group of 40 Turkish Nobles)** to end **noble conspiracies**.
- Appointed **loyal officers** in administrative positions.

3. Strong Military Administration –

- Built a **well-disciplined army** and improved frontier defenses.
- Strengthened the **northwestern border** against **Mongol invasions**.

4. Strict Law & Order –

- He **severely punished corrupt officials and rebels**.
- His rule was **strict but effective**, ensuring **political stability**.

5. Economic & Administrative Reforms –

- Improved the **tax collection system** for better revenue.
- Strengthened **trade and infrastructure** in Delhi.

Conclusion

Balban's policies brought **stability, discipline, and strong governance** to the Delhi Sultanate. His rule marked the end of the **Slave Dynasty**, but his reforms influenced later rulers.

8. What were the major challenges faced by the early rulers of the Delhi Sultanate?

Introduction

The early rulers of the Delhi Sultanate (1206–1290) faced **several political, military, and administrative challenges** in establishing their rule in India.

Major Challenges

1. Resistance from Rajputs & Indian Rulers –

- The **Rajputs, Chauhans, and other regional rulers** resisted Turkish rule.
- **Mewar, Gujarat, and Bengal** frequently revolted against Delhi's authority.

2. Internal Rivalries & Nobility Conspiracies –

- The **Chalisa (Group of 40 nobles)** often tried to control the Sultan.
- Several rulers, including Iltutmish, had to suppress **internal rebellions**.

3. Mongol Invasions –

- The **Mongols under Genghis Khan** threatened the **northwestern frontier** of India.
- Later, rulers like Balban had to **strengthen border defenses**.

4. Financial Problems –

- The new rulers struggled to **maintain a stable economy**.



- The introduction of the **Iqta system** helped in revenue collection.

5. Religious & Cultural Differences –

- The **Turkish rulers followed Islam**, while most Indians were **Hindus and Buddhists**.
- They had to **balance religious tolerance** and administrative control.

Conclusion

Despite these challenges, rulers like **Iltutmish and Balban** successfully established the Delhi Sultanate. Their policies laid the foundation for future Muslim rule in India.

9. Explain the economic policies of the Delhi Sultanate.

Introduction

The economic policies of the Delhi Sultanate were designed to **generate revenue, develop trade, and maintain a strong administration**.

Key Economic Policies

1. Land Revenue System –

- The Sultanate implemented a **land tax system**, where peasants paid a share of their produce as tax.
- Iltutmish introduced the **Iqta system**, where **land was granted to officials** in return for service.

2. Trade & Commerce –

- **Delhi became a major trade center**, connecting India to Central Asia and Persia.
- **Gold, silver coins (Tanka), and copper coins (Jital)** were used for trade.

3. Agriculture & Irrigation –

- Farmers grew **wheat, barley, rice, and sugarcane**.
- The government-built **canals and wells** to improve irrigation.

4. Market Regulations –

- Alauddin Khilji **fixed prices of essential goods** to prevent inflation.
- Controlled **grain storage and trade policies** to stop hoarding.

Conclusion

The economic policies of the Delhi Sultanate **strengthened trade, agriculture, and revenue collection**. These policies helped maintain a **strong economy and administration**.

UNIT – 2

ONE MARK:

Alauddin Khalji's Conquests

1. Who was the first independent ruler of the Khalji dynasty?
 - Alauddin Khalji (ruled 1296–1316 CE).
 2. Which kingdom did Alauddin Khalji first attack in the Deccan?
 - Devagiri (1308 CE), ruled by Yadava King Ramachandra.
 3. Which Rajput kingdom was defeated by Alauddin Khalji in 1303?
 - Chittor (Rajasthan), ruled by Rana Ratan Singh.
 4. Which Mongol invasion did Alauddin Khalji successfully repel?
 - Mongol invasion of 1306 CE.
 5. Who was the commander of Alauddin Khalji's army in the South Indian campaigns?
 - Malik Kafur.
 6. Which kingdom did Malik Kafur conquer in South India in 1310 CE?
 - Warangal (Kakatiya dynasty).
 7. Which famous temple town in Tamil Nadu was looted by Malik Kafur?
 - Madurai (Pandya kingdom).
 8. What was the capital of the Hoysala kingdom that was captured by Malik Kafur?
 - Dwarasamudra.
-

Economic Measures of Alauddin Khalji

9. Which ruler introduced price control measures in the Delhi Sultanate?
 - Alauddin Khalji.
10. What was the main aim of Alauddin Khalji's economic policies?
 - To control prices and prevent hoarding.
11. Which market regulation was enforced by Alauddin Khalji?
 - Fixing prices of essential commodities.
12. What was the role of the 'Shahna-i-Mandi' in Alauddin Khalji's rule?
 - It was the market officer who regulated prices.
13. Which tax did Alauddin Khalji increase to strengthen the economy?
 - Land revenue (raised to 50% of the produce).



14. What was the currency used in Alauddin Khalji's time?

- Silver 'Tanka' and copper 'Jital'.
-

Reforms of Muhammad Bin Tughluq

15. Which ruler introduced the token currency system in India?

- Muhammad Bin Tughluq (ruled 1325–1351 CE).

16. What was the capital of Muhammad Bin Tughluq before he shifted it to Daulatabad?

- Delhi.

17. Why did Muhammad Bin Tughluq's token currency fail?

- People started making fake coins.

18. Which major irrigation project was started by Muhammad Bin Tughluq?

- Construction of canals for agriculture.
-

Contribution of Firoz Shah Tughluq

19. Which Sultan introduced the 'Jizya' tax on Brahmins?

- Firoz Shah Tughluq.

20. Which city did Firoz Shah Tughluq build as his capital?

- Firozabad.

TWO MARK:

1. What were the major conquests of Alauddin Khalji?

Alauddin Khalji expanded his empire through several successful military campaigns. He conquered Gujarat (1299), Ranthambore (1301), Chittor (1303), and Malwa (1305). His general, Malik Kafur, led expeditions to the Deccan, capturing Devagiri, Warangal, Dwarasamudra, and Madurai. These conquests strengthened his rule and secured immense wealth for the Delhi Sultanate.

2. How did Alauddin Khalji deal with the Mongol invasions?

Alauddin Khalji successfully repelled multiple Mongol invasions. He strengthened Delhi's defenses by building a strong army and fortifying the city. He also established military outposts along the northwestern frontier. In 1306, his forces, led by Ghazi Malik, defeated the Mongols, ensuring the safety of the Delhi Sultanate from future invasions.

3. What was the significance of Alauddin Khalji's conquest of Chittor?

The conquest of Chittor in 1303 was one of Alauddin Khalji's most famous victories. It led to the

legendary tale of Rani Padmini and the practice of Jauhar, where Rajput women sacrificed themselves to avoid capture. The victory allowed Alauddin to control an important Rajput stronghold, consolidating his power in northern India.

4. What role did Malik Kafur play in Alauddin Khalji's campaigns?

Malik Kafur was Alauddin Khalji's trusted general who led several successful military campaigns in South India. He defeated the Yadavas of Devagiri, the Kakatiyas of Warangal, the Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra, and the Pandyas of Madurai. His expeditions brought immense wealth to the Delhi Sultanate and extended its influence over the Deccan region.

5. What was Alauddin Khalji's market control policy?

Alauddin Khalji introduced strict market regulations to control the prices of essential commodities such as food grains, cloth, and cattle. He established government-run granaries to prevent hoarding and appointed market inspectors (Shahna-i-Mandi) to enforce price controls. These measures ensured that soldiers and common people could afford basic necessities.

6. How did Alauddin Khalji regulate land revenue?

Alauddin Khalji increased land revenue to 50% of the total agricultural produce. He abolished the system of revenue farming and introduced direct tax collection. The revenue was collected in cash instead of kind, which strengthened the economy and ensured a steady income for the state.

7. What was the impact of Alauddin Khalji's economic policies?

Alauddin's economic policies stabilized prices and ensured food security for his subjects. His market regulations prevented inflation, and his revenue policies increased state income. However, excessive taxation created hardships for farmers and traders, leading to dissatisfaction among the people.

8. Why did Muhammad Bin Tughluq shift his capital to Daulatabad?

Muhammad Bin Tughluq shifted his capital from Delhi to Daulatabad (in present-day Maharashtra) to ensure better control over the Deccan. He believed Daulatabad was centrally located and less vulnerable to Mongol attacks. However, the forced migration of people caused immense hardship, and the decision failed, forcing him to abandon Daulatabad.

9. What was Muhammad Bin Tughluq's token currency experiment?

Muhammad Bin Tughluq introduced bronze and copper coins as token currency to replace silver coins. However, due to a lack of proper control, people started making counterfeit coins. This led to economic instability, and the policy was eventually abandoned, resulting in huge losses for the state.

10. How did Muhammad Bin Tughluq try to improve agriculture?

He introduced the "Takavi" loan system, where farmers were provided financial assistance for cultivation. He also planned large-scale irrigation projects, including the construction of canals.

However, harsh taxation and poor execution led to dissatisfaction among peasants, and his efforts largely failed.

11. What were the reasons behind the failure of Muhammad Bin Tughluq's policies?

His policies failed due to poor planning and lack of proper execution. The sudden introduction of changes, such as token currency and the shifting of the capital, created confusion. His ambitious projects lacked proper administrative support, leading to widespread dissatisfaction and economic losses.

12. What was the significance of Firoz Shah Tughluq's rule?

Firoz Shah Tughluq (ruled 1351–1388) focused on administration, irrigation, and public welfare. He built canals, rest houses, and hospitals. Unlike his predecessors, he avoided military conquests and instead concentrated on governance and social reforms.

13. What were the irrigation reforms introduced by Firoz Shah Tughluq?

Firoz Shah Tughluq built canals from the Yamuna and Sutlej rivers to improve irrigation. His efforts helped in increasing agricultural productivity and ensuring food security for his people. These irrigation projects contributed to economic stability.

14. How did Firoz Shah Tughluq support scholars and education?

Firoz Shah Tughluq patronized scholars and built several madrasas (Islamic schools). He supported the compilation of historical records and translated many Sanskrit texts into Persian, promoting learning and intellectual development.

15. What measures did Firoz Shah Tughluq take to improve administration?

He introduced the "Diwan-i-Khairat" (department of charity) to help the poor and the "Diwan-i-Bandagan" (department for slaves) to rehabilitate war captives. He also appointed officials to inspect governance in different regions, ensuring better administration.

16. How did Firoz Shah Tughluq's tax policies differ from his predecessors?

He reduced taxes for peasants and introduced a more lenient revenue system. Unlike Alauddin Khalji, who imposed heavy taxes, Firoz Shah Tughluq reduced the burden on farmers and traders, leading to economic stability.

17. Why did Firoz Shah Tughluq reintroduce Jizya tax on Brahmins?

He was a staunch follower of Islam and implemented conservative policies. He reintroduced the Jizya tax on Brahmins, which was previously exempted. This move reflected his religious orthodoxy and preference for Islamic rule.



18. How did Firoz Shah Tughluq contribute to architecture?

He built several cities, including Firozabad in Delhi, and repaired historical monuments like the Qutb Minar. His architectural contributions included mosques, palaces, and irrigation structures.

19. How did the administrative structure change under Firoz Shah Tughluq?

He appointed experienced officials and introduced a pension system for retired soldiers and officers. His administration was more stable compared to Muhammad Bin Tughluq's rule.

20. What was the impact of Firoz Shah Tughluq's policies on the Delhi Sultanate?

His policies brought temporary stability and prosperity, but his focus on religious orthodoxy alienated non-Muslims. His successors could not maintain his governance model, leading to the eventual decline of the Tughluq dynasty.

21. What were the main objectives of Alauddin Khalji's economic policies?

Alauddin Khalji aimed to control inflation, stabilize the economy, and ensure an abundant supply of goods at fair prices. His strict price control measures, regulation of markets, and tax reforms were designed to support his large standing army and strengthen his administration without causing financial strain on the empire.

22. How did Alauddin Khalji manage his large army?

Alauddin Khalji introduced a standing army to counter Mongol invasions and maintain internal stability. He standardized military salaries, paid soldiers in cash, and conducted a strict branding system (Dagh) to prevent corruption. His efficient military organization made the Delhi Sultanate one of the strongest forces of the time.

23. What was the significance of the Deccan campaigns led by Malik Kafur?

Malik Kafur's campaigns in the Deccan (1308–1312) extended Delhi's influence over South India. He defeated the Yadavas of Devagiri, the Kakatiyas of Warangal, the Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra, and the Pandyas of Madurai. These expeditions brought immense wealth to Delhi and weakened the autonomy of South Indian kingdoms.

24. Why is Muhammad Bin Tughluq called the 'wisest fool' of Indian history?

Muhammad Bin Tughluq was highly educated and ambitious but lacked practical governance skills. His policies, such as shifting the capital to Daulatabad and introducing token currency, were visionary but failed due to poor planning. His inability to assess their impact led historians to call him the 'wisest fool'.

25. What were the main reasons behind the failure of the Daulatabad capital shift?

The decision to move the capital failed due to the extreme hardship faced by people during migration, lack of water supply in Daulatabad, and continued threats to Delhi from Mongol invasions. Eventually, Muhammad Bin Tughluq had to reverse the move, causing a major loss of resources and public dissatisfaction.



26. How did Muhammad Bin Tughluq deal with rebellions?

Muhammad Bin Tughluq faced multiple rebellions due to his harsh taxation policies and failed administrative experiments. His attempts to suppress revolts in Bengal, Gujarat, and Sindh resulted in severe instability. Despite his military strength, he could not control the growing unrest, leading to the decline of his empire.

27. How did Firoz Shah Tughluq promote public welfare?

Firoz Shah Tughluq focused on building hospitals (Dar-ul-Shifa), madrasas, rest houses, and irrigation canals. He also established a pension system for widows and provided financial support to orphans. Unlike his predecessors, he prioritized the well-being of his subjects over military conquests.

28. What role did religion play in Firoz Shah Tughluq's administration?

Firoz Shah Tughluq was a devout Muslim who imposed strict Islamic laws. He discouraged un-Islamic practices and imposed Jizya tax on non-Muslims, including Brahmins. His religious policies made his rule more orthodox compared to earlier Sultans, leading to social divisions.

29. How did Firoz Shah Tughluq deal with the Mongol threat?

Unlike Alauddin Khalji and Muhammad Bin Tughluq, Firoz Shah Tughluq adopted a non-confrontational approach. He avoided military engagements with the Mongols and instead focused on internal stability and governance. His peaceful policies ensured that Delhi remained secure during his reign.

30. What was the impact of Firoz Shah Tughluq's rule on the Delhi Sultanate?

Firoz Shah Tughluq's reign brought administrative stability and infrastructural growth. However, his excessive focus on religious orthodoxy and the decline of military strength weakened the Sultanate. After his death, the empire fragmented, leading to the rise of independent regional states.

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