



QUICK REVISION MODULE (UPSC PRELIMS 2024) ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY

Delhi Sultanate

Shahnama: Firdausi
Al-Beruni: Tarikh-Al-Hind
Minhaj us Siraj: Tabaqat-i-Nasiri



Amir Khusrau
Mifta Ul Futuh (Jalal-ud-din Khalji)
Khazain Ul Futuh (Allauddin Khalji)
Tughlaq Nama (History of Tughlaq dynasty)

Sources for the Study of Delhi Sultanate

Ziauddin Barani: Tarikh-i Firuz Shahi
Shams-i-Siraj Afif: Tarikh-i Firuz Shahi (after Barani's account of Delhi Sultanate)



Ghulam Yahya Bin Ahmad:
Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi (Sayyid ruler Mubarak Shah)
Ferishta: History of the Muslim Rule in India (Persian)

The Arab Conquest of Sind

1st Islamic invasion
Muhammad Bin Qasim

2nd Islamic invasion
Mahmud of Ghazni

3rd Islamic invasion
Muhammad Ghori

1st Islamic invasion



Initiative

- ◆ Arab governor of Iraq, **Hajjaj Bin Yusuf** sent **Muhammad Bin Qasim (Umayyad)** against **Dahar** in 712 AD.



Causes of defeat

- ◆ Dahar's wazir betrayed him.
- ◆ Dahar lacked popular support due to biases for Dahar Brahmins.



Result

- ◆ Muhammad Qasim captured **Brahmanabad** and plundered **Debal**.
- ◆ Arab conquest of Sind has been described as a **“triumph without results”**.

2nd Islamic invasion

Alaptigin 963 AD

Established independent kingdom in **city of Ghazni**.

Mahmud

Title **Yamini-ud-Daulah**
(‘Right-hand of the Empire’).

Events led to invasion

Sabuktigin Defeated the Shahi ruler of Afghanistan, **Jayapal**.

Mahmud of Ghazni (reign 998–1030 AD) >>>



- ◆ Defeating the Shahi king **Anandapala** went beyond Punjab. Raided Mathura, etc.
- ◆ Mahmud ruled for **thirty-two years, seventeen military campaigns** into India, motive was to loot, demolishing temples and smashing idols.
- ◆ Invasion of the **temple city of Somnath (1025)**. These plunders were meant to replenish the treasury to maintain his huge army.

3rd Islamic invasion >>>

Muizzud-din Muhammad (Muhammad Ghori)

- ◆ **1186**: Invaded Punjab and seized Lahore.
- ◆ **Ghaznavid invasions**: Intended for loot.
- ◆ **Ghurid invasions**: Establish **garrison towns** to ensure the regular flow of plunder and tribute.

Areas of annexation

- ◆ **Lahore, Sind, Multan, Uchch**, etc.
- ◆ **Chalukyas of Gujarat defeated** Muhammad Ghori at Mt. Abu (1179).
- ◆ After this defeat, consolidated his position in Sind and the Punjab.

Prithviraj Chauhan

- ◆ Ghori attacked the fortress of **Tabarhinda** (Bhatinda).
- ◆ Prithviraj Chauhan marched to Tabarhinda.
- ◆ **First Battle of Tarain (1191)**-> **Won by Prithviraj Chauhan** but failed to consolidate.
- ◆ **Second Battle of Tarain(1192)**-> Prithviraj was defeated and captured.
- ◆ **Qutb-ud-din Aibak** was appointed as his deputy in India.

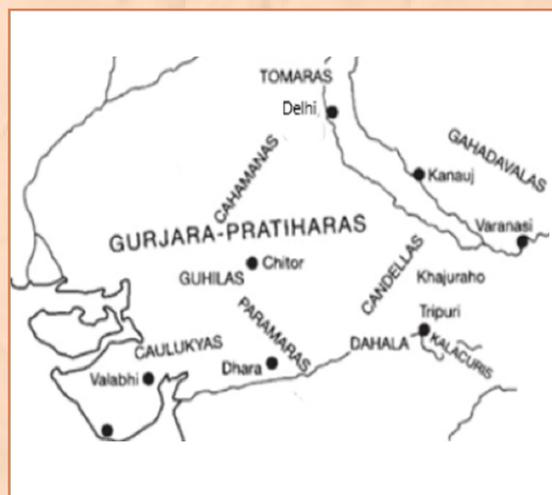
Battle of Chand war
(1193-94)

Kanauj ruler **Jaya Chanda**
vs **Muhammad Ghori's**
forces.

Defeat of **Jaya Chanda**

Rajput Kingdoms

Kingdom	Prominent ruler	Region
Chauhan	Vigraharaja and Prithviraj	Rajasthan
Tomar	Anangpal Tomar II	Delhi
Paramara	Bhoja	Malwa
Ghadavala	Jayachandra	Kanauj
Chandelas	Yasovarman, KirtiVarman	Bundelkhand



Foundation of Delhi Sultanate



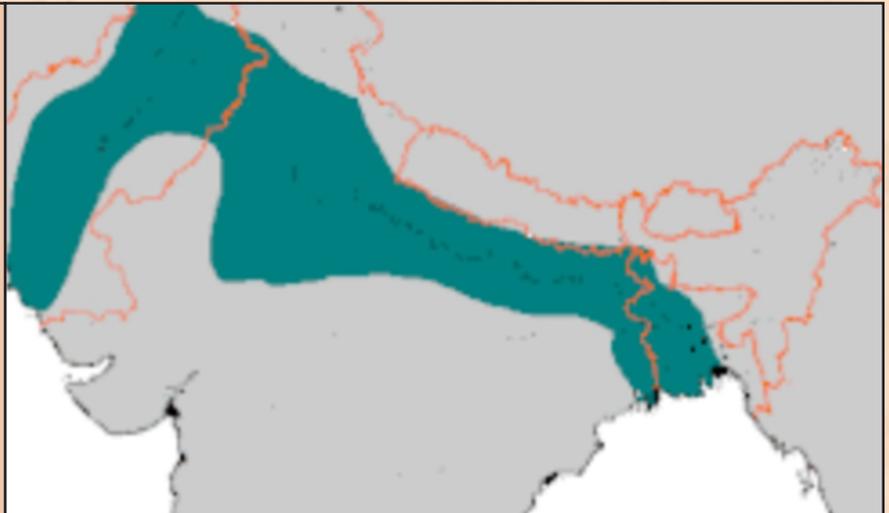
The Slave Dynasty (Mamluk dynasty or Ilbary dynasty)

Sultan	Important features
 Qutb-ud-din Aibak (1206-1210)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Slave of Muhammad Ghori and founder of Delhi Sultanate. ◆ Muhammad Bin Bhakthiyar Khalji was contemporary. ◆ Known as “Lakh Baksh” due to his generosity. ◆ Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque in Delhi. ◆ Died in 1210 in Lahore while playing Chaugan.
 Iltutmish (1210–1236)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Slave of Qutbud-din Aibak and defeated Aram Shah. ◆ Internal rebellions of Rajputs at Gwalior, Ranthambor, Ajmer and Jalore were set aside. ◆ Saved India by refusing to support the Khwarizmi Shah Jalaluddin of Central Asia against the Mongol ruler Chengiz Khan. ◆ Credit of consolidating the Delhi Sultanate. ◆ Obtained a 'Letter of Investiture' in AD 1229 from the Abbasid Caliph of Baghdad to gain legitimacy.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Completion of QutbMinar. <p>Administrative aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Administrative institution such as iqtas, army and currency system. ◆ Organised his trusted nobles or officers into a “Group of Forty” (Turkan-i-Chahalgani). ◆ Silver 'Tanka' and the copper 'Jittal' coins of the Sultanate period. ◆ Elite military slaves (Bandagan). ◆ Iqtas (land assignments in lieu of cash salaries) to his Turkish officers (known as “iqtadars”). ◆ Financial and administrative control regions of North India.
 <p>Raziya (1236–40)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Iltutmish nominated Raziya as his successor. ◆ Her Brother Ruknuddin Firoz betrayed and ascended the throne. ◆ Raziya soon ascended the throne. ◆ Attempted to create a counter nobility of non-Turks. ◆ Appointed the Abyssinian, Malik Jamaluddin Yaqut, as the amir-i-akhur (master of the horses), thus irked nobility. <p>Reforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Gave up her 'Purdah' and started appearing in the court in male attire wearing a 'Kuva' (Coat) and a 'Kulah' (Cap). ◆ Started horse riding, hunting and commanding the army etc. <p>Led to Multiple revolts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Most important was revolt by Altunia, the governor of Bhatinda. ◆ Razia and her husband Altunia were defeated and murdered near Kaithal.
 <p>Nasiruddin Mahmud (1246–66 AD)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Placed by Ulugh Khan (Balban) as titular ruler and Balban assumed the position of Naib (deputy). ◆ According to Ibn Battuta and Isami, Balban poisoned his master Nasiruddin and ascended the throne.
 <p>Balban (AD 1266–87)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Finally ascended the throne in AD 1266. ◆ Faced hostile situation from inside and outside including from Turkish chiefs, Mongols, Indian rulers, Rajput zamindars, Mewatis, etc. ◆ Balban adopted a stern policy against it. ◆ Punitive Expedition against Tughril Khan, Governor of Bengal. <p>Nature of rule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Autocratic rule, did not allow any noble to assume great power, formulated the theory of kingship, and redefined the relations between the Sultan and nobility. ◆ Negative attitude towards the non-Turks.

- ◆ To **break powers of Chahalgani**, appointed spies in every department.
- ◆ Organised a **strong centralized army**.
- ◆ Re-organised the military department (**diwan-i-arz**).
- ◆ Maintained a **magnificent court**.
Refused to laugh and joke in the court, even gave up drinking wine.
- ◆ Insisted on the ceremony of **sijada (prostration) and paibos (kissing of the monarch's feet)** in the court.
- ◆ Balban adopted a **policy of consolidation** rather than expansion.
- ◆ **Firoz (Jalal-ud-din Khalji)** was **Ariz-i-Mumalik** (Minister of War).
- ◆ Balban was replaced by **Kaiquabad**, who was soon replaced by his son, **Kaimurs**.
- ◆ In 1290 AD **Firoz**, murdered Kaimurs and seized the throne.
- ◆ It brought to an **end the slave dynasty** and Firoz ascended the throne under the title of **Jalal-ud-din Khalji**.

Regional extent of Slave dynasty



The Khaljis (1290-1320) >>>>



Regional extent of The Khaljis:

- ◆ Khalji territory (dark green)
- ◆ Khalji tributaries (light green)

Malik Jalal-ud-din Khalji (1290-1296)

Afghanized Turk, laid the foundation of the Khalji dynasty.

Ended the monopoly of nobility of slaves.

First ruler of the Delhi Sultanate to clearly put forward the view that the state should be based on the willing support of the governed.

Policy of tolerance.

Ala-ud-din, who was appointed governor of Kara, arranged to get Jalaluddin Khalji murdered and captured the throne.

Ala-ud-din Khalji (1296–1316)

Background

- ◆ Nephew and son-in-law of Jalaluddin.
- ◆ Appointed as **Amir-i-Tuzuk** (Master of Ceremonies).
- ◆ Victorious expeditions during the reign of Jalaluddin: **Bhilsa (Vidisa) in 1292 and Devagiri in 1294.**
- ◆ Appointed as **Arizi-i-Mumalik** (Minister of War).
- ◆ Captured throne in 1296.

Nature of rule

- ◆ Revive Balban's policies of **ruthless governance.**
- ◆ **Curb the powers of the nobles and interference of Ulema** in the matters of the state.
- ◆ Rebellions in succession during the early years of his rule.

Inefficiency of the spy system.

General practice of the use of wine.

Reasons for the rebellions as per Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi

Social intercourse among the nobles and inter-marriage between them.

Excess of wealth in the possession of certain nobles.

	Regulations to prevent the reoccurrence of these rebellions			
	Land tax for the holdings to curb the excess of wealth.	Reorganized the spy system	Use of liquor and intoxicants was prohibited.	Nobles were ordered not to have social gatherings or inter-marriages without his permission.
Levels of administration	<p>Central Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Diwan-i-Riyasat: Duty was to check the smooth running of market and price control. <p>Provincial Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The empire was divided into number of provinces. ◆ Each province was administered by a Governor who was the chief executive and provincial in-charge of revenue collection. ◆ Also the in-charge of provincial army. ◆ Other independent officials as well. <p>Pargana Level /District Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Alauddin appointed officers to collect taxes in Pargana known as Amils. ◆ Administrative unit at local level was Sadi, which was a group of 100 villages. ◆ Village head (Chaudhari/Muqqadam), a Patwari and revenue officers. 			
Army reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ First Sultan to have a permanent army at the centre. ◆ Introduced the system of Daag and Huliya in the army. ◆ Organised his army on the Decimal System. ◆ Started paying the salary of the army in cash. ◆ Also constructed local army. ◆ Daftar-i-fazilat-i-hasan: Records of revenue and salary related to the army. ◆ Special army for the frontiers. 			
Financial Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Charai tax: Number of cattle's was fixed and taxes were collected. ◆ Gharai tax: House tax which the house owner had to pay. ◆ Rate of Kharaj was increased by half the produce (50 per cent). ◆ Paimaish: Assessment of land measurement. ◆ Diwan-i-Mushtakraj: New department to keep an account of the unpaid taxes and their proper and timely collection. 			
Mongol Threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Attacks from 1298 to 1308. ◆ Ala-ud-din succeeded in driving them back. ◆ Huge permanent, standing army to satisfy his ambition of conquest and to protect the country from Mongol invasion. ◆ Army took a large number of Mongols as prisoners and slaughtered them mercilessly. 			

Expansion of Delhi Sultanate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Territorial conquest with a campaign against Gujarat in 1299. ◆ Temple of Somnath was captured. ◆ Malik Kafur, captured from Gujarat. ◆ Ranthambore was next target in 1301. ◆ In 1303, Alauddin besieged Chittor, another powerful state of Rajputana. ◆ Episode of Padmini. ◆ In 1305, Khalji army under Ain-ul-Mulk captured Malwa. ◆ Ujjain, Mandu, Dhar and Chanderi were also captured.
Military Campaigns to Deccan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Large army commanded by Malik Kafur for Deccan victory. ◆ Rai Ramachandra of Devagiri: 1307 ◆ Prataparudradeva, the Kakatiya ruler of Warangal: 1309 ◆ Hoysala ruler Vira Ballala III: 1310 ◆ Pandyan ruler of Madurai: 1311

Market Regulations of Alauddin Khalji >>>>

First Sultan to pay his soldiers in cash rather than give them a share of booty. Thus, prices had to be monitored and controlled



Three different markets

Grain market (Mandi)

Cloth market (Sarai Adl)

Market for horses, slaves, cattles, etc.



To ensure implementation appointed

Superintendent (Shahna-i-Mandi) assisted by an intelligence officer.

Independent sources, barid (intelligence officer) and munhiyans (secret spies).



Any violation of Sultan's orders resulted in harsh punishment, including expulsion from the capital, imposition of fine, imprisonment and mutilation

Ghazi Malik, a veteran of several campaigns against the Mongols, ascending the throne of Delhi in 1320 as **Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq**.

Tughlaq Dynasty(1320-1414) >>>>

Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq (1320–1324)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Founder of Tughlaq Dynasty. ◆ Followed a policy of reconciliation with the nobles. ◆ Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq died in AD 1325 and his son Muhammad Bin Tughlaq ascended the throne.
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Muhammad Bin Tughlaq (Jauna) (1324-1351)

- ◆ **Learned, cultured and talented prince** but gained a reputation of being merciless, cruel and unjust.
- ◆ Repulsed the Mongol army.
- ◆ An innovator, but unlike Ala-ud-din, **lacked the will to execute his plans** successfully.

Transfer of Capital (1327 AD)

Attempt to shift the capital from Delhi to Devagiri (renamed Daulatabad) as it was difficult to rule south India from Delhi.

The Sultan ordered important officers and leading men including many Sufi saints to shift to Devagiri.

Plan failed, and soon Muhammad realised that it was difficult to rule North India from Daulatabad.

Again ordered transfer of capital back to Delhi.

Token Currency (1329 AD)

Bronze coins as token	Challenges	Repercussions
Already been experimented in China and Iran.	Fake coins were minted that could not be prevented by the government.	Government had to withdraw the bronze coins and replace them with silver coins.
During that time coins were based on silver content.	Devaluation of new coins.	

Expedition of Khurasan (1332-1333AD)

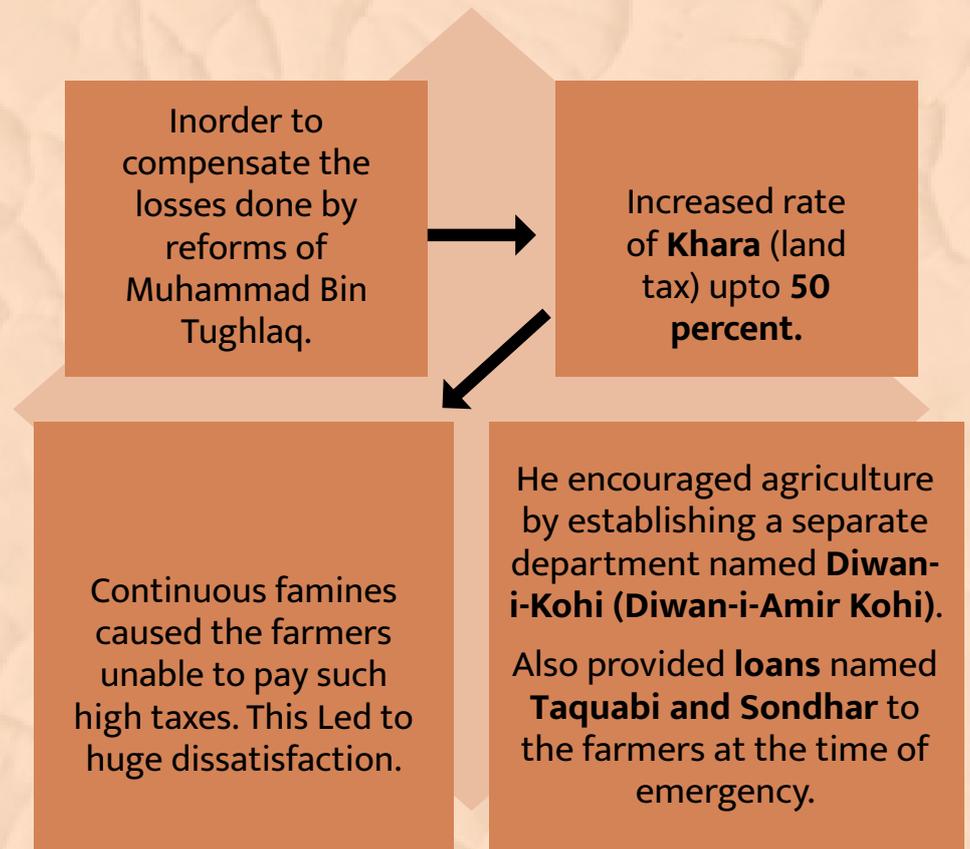
Alliance between the **mongol invader Tarmashirin** and **Muhammad Bin Tughlaq** against the contemporary ruler of **Khurasan Abbu Saiid**.

Expedition resulted in **partial victory** of Muhammad Bin Tughlaq, as the ruler of **Khurasan accepted the subordination** of Muhammad Bin Tughlaq and agreed to pay annual tax.

Karachil Expedition (1333 AD)

- ◆ Muhammad Bin Tughlaq **attacked** on Karachil with aim to **annex the KulluKangra** area of Himachal Pradesh.
- ◆ Initially fruitful, but later it turned out to be a failure due to heavy rain and spread of epidemic.

Taxation in Doab (1334 AD)



Difference in approach of Ala-ud-din Khalji and Muhammad Bin Tughlaq

- ◆ **Ala-ud-din Khalji** had not annexed distant territories knowing well that they could not be effectively governed. Establish his **suzerainty over them**.
- ◆ **Muhammad annexed** all the lands he conquered. Hence, he faced a series of rebellions. His repressive measures further alienated his subjects.

Firuz Tughlaq
(1351–1388)

- ◆ Muhammad bin Tughlaq died without naming his successor.
- ◆ Firuz ascended the throne **in 1351**.

Administrative changes:

- ◆ **Conciliatory policy** towards the nobles and theologians.
- ◆ Reintroduced the **system of hereditary appointments** to offices, a practice which was not favoured by Ala-ud-din Khalji.
- ◆ **Increased salaries** of government officials.
- ◆ Reduced multiple taxes.
- ◆ Abolished many varieties of torture employed by his predecessor.

- ◆ Established a **separate government department** to ensure welfare of slaves (**Diwan-i-Bandagan**).

Firuz Policy of No Wars:

- ◆ Firuz waged no wars of annexation.
- ◆ However, successfully put down rebellions and incursions.
- ◆ Major military campaign of his period was against **Sind (1362)**.
- ◆ Ruler of Sind agreed to surrender and pay tribute to the Sultan.

Religious Policy

- ◆ Favoured **orthodox** Islam.
- ◆ **Heretics** were persecuted, and practices considered **un-Islamic** were banned.
- ◆ **Imposed jizya**, a head tax on non-Muslims, even Brahmins were compelled to pay.
- ◆ Firuz **did not prohibit the building of new Hindu temples** and shrines.
- ◆ Translation of many Sanskrit works relating to religion, medicine and music.
- ◆ Credited with establishing several educational institutions and a number of mosques, palaces and forts.

Public Works

- ◆ Undertook many **irrigation projects**.
- ◆ Canal he dug from **Sutlej river to Hansi**, canal in Yamuna, etc.

Issues with his set-up:

- ◆ The **principle of heredity** permitted for the nobles and applied to the army weakened the Delhi Sultanate.
- ◆ The nobility that had **regained power got involved in political intrigues** which undermined the stability of the Sultanate.

Nasir-ud-din Muhammad Shah (1394–1412)

- ◆ Timur's Invasion from Central Asia.



Territory under Tughlaq dynasty when it was on peak.

Sayyid Dynasty (1414–1451) >>>

After defeating the army of Delhi in 1398 Timur appointed **Khizr Khan** as the ruler of Multan.

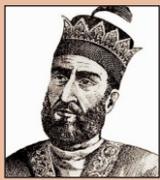
Khizr Khan defeated **Sultan Daulat Khan** and occupied Delhi and founded **Sayyid dynasty** in 1414.

The author of the **Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi**, **Yahya Sirhindi** claims that the founder of the Sayyid dynasty was a descendant of the prophet.

Rulers:

- ◆ Khizr Khan
- ◆ Mubarak Shah
- ◆ Muhammad Shah
- ◆ Alam Shah

Lodi Dynasty (1451–1526) >>>



Bahlol Lodi
(AD 1451–1489)

- ◆ **Foundation of Lodi dynasty, 1st to be headed by the Afghans.**
- ◆ Required help and support of Afghan nobles.
- ◆ **Afghan nobles** wanted Sultan to treat them as an **equal partner** rather than an absolute monarch.
- ◆ This policy worked well throughout his reign.
- ◆ Successfully suppressed the revolts in Mewat and Doab, annexed Jaunpur, and brought Kalpi and Dholpur under the Suzerainty of Delhi.



Sikandar Lodi
(AD 1489–1517)

- ◆ Little tolerance towards the non-muslims.
- ◆ Re-imposed jaziya on non-muslims.
- ◆ Superior position of the Sultan vis-a-vis the nobles.
- ◆ Re-annexed Bihar, Dholpur, Narwar and some parts of the kingdom of Gwalior and Nagor to the Delhi Sultanate.

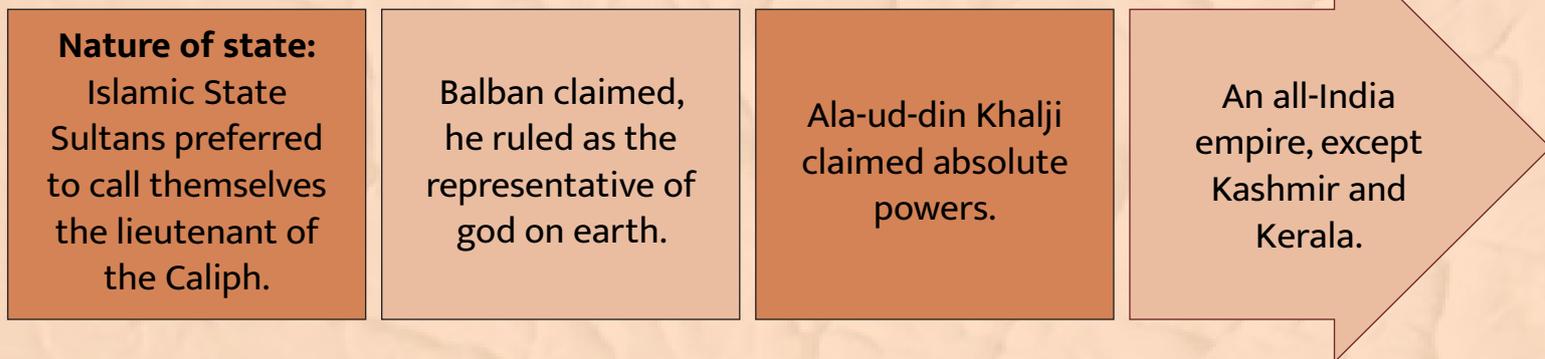


Ibrahim Lodi
(1517-1526)

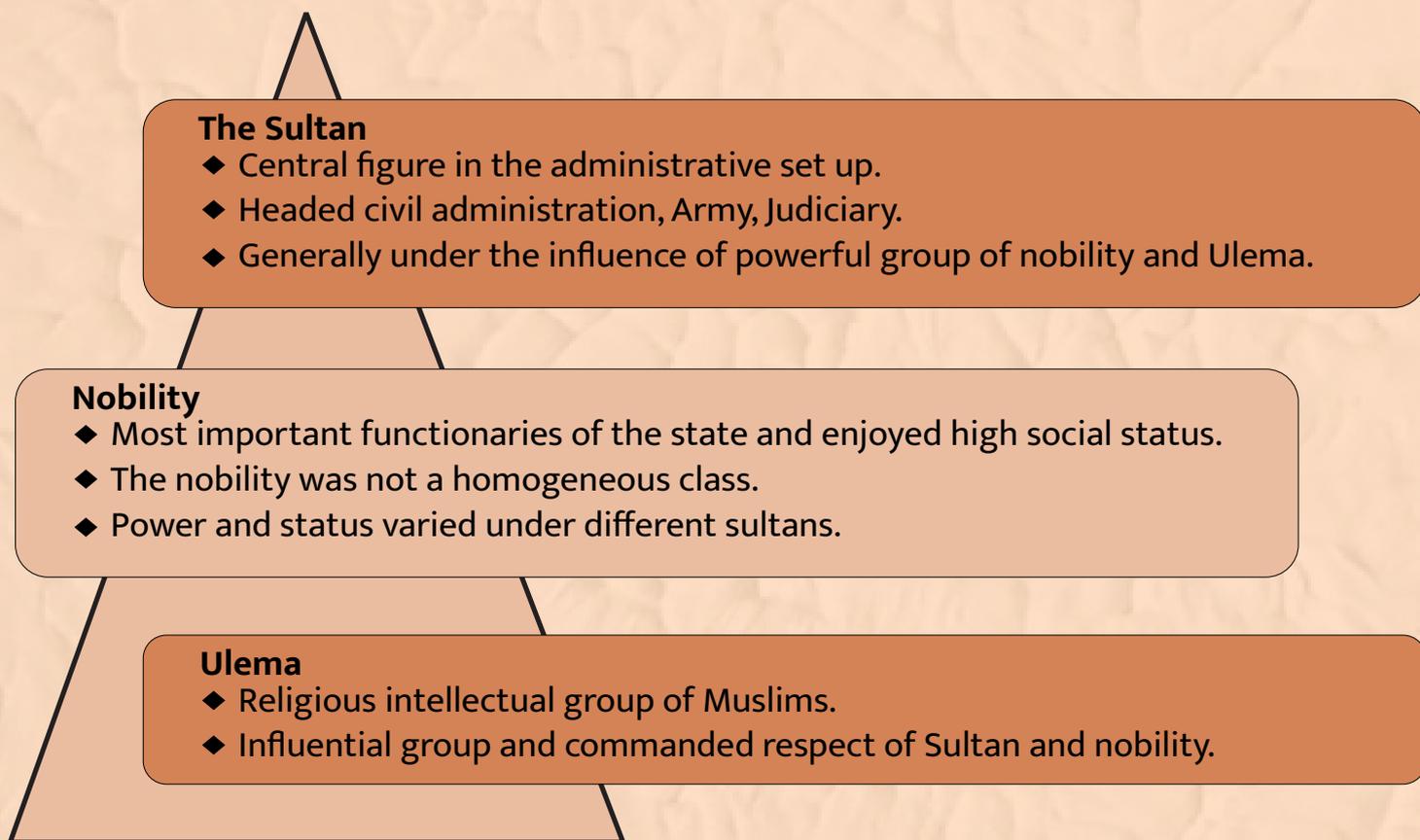
- ◆ Bihar declared its independence.
- ◆ Daulat Khan the governor of Punjab also rebelled.
- ◆ Sultan's behaviour caused much dissatisfaction.
- ◆ Daulat Khan sent an invitation to Babur at Kabul to invade India.
- ◆ Babur defeated Sultan Ibrahim Lodi in AD 1526 in the **Battle at Panipat**.
- ◆ The Sultanate of Delhi, which had its birth on the “**battlefield of Tarain**” in AD 1192, breathed its last in AD 1526 a few miles away on the “**battlefield of Panipat**”.

The administrative departments of the Delhi sultanate

1. State and Society



2. General administrative system



3. Different departments under Delhi sultanate

Department	Key Functions	
Diwan-i-Wizarat	Chief advisor to the Sultan, to look after financial organization of the State.	
	Departments under the wizarat:	
	Department	Purpose
	Mustaufi-i-Mumalik	Auditor General

	Mushrif-i-Mumalik	Accountant General
	Majmuadar	Keeper of loans and balances from treasury
	Diwan-i -Waqoof	To supervise expenditure
	Diwan-i-Mustakharaj	Arrears of revenue payments
	Diwan-i-Amir Kohi	Department of agriculture
Diwan-i-Risalat	Department for foreign affairs , some considers it to related with religious matters.	
Diwan-i-arz	Department of Military,headed by Ariz-i-Mumalik .	
Diwan-i-Bandagan	Department of slaves	
Diwan-i-Qaza-i-Mamalik	Department of justice	
Diwan-i-Ishtiaq	Department of pensions	
Diwan-i-Khairat	Department of charity	
Diwan-i-insha	Department of correspondence, headed by Dabir-i-Khas .	

IQTA SYSTEM

Meaning

- ◆ Form of reward for services to the state. Holders as **iqtdar or muqti**.
- ◆ Army commanders and nobles were given territories to administer and collect the revenue.

Purpose

- ◆ System of payment to the officers and maintenance of army.
- ◆ Muqti was given complete charge of the administration of the iqta.

Important terms

- ◆ Khwaja: To keep a record of the income of the Iqtas.
- ◆ Barid: Intelligence officer.
- ◆ khalisa: Areas under direct control of Sultan.

Traveller's chronology and important events

Traveller	Reign and Timeline	Important aspects associated
Al Masudi	Arab traveller 896 - 956	Muruj-ul-Zehab or Muruj-adh-dhahab: Extensive account of India in his work.
Muhammad ibn Ahmad Abu Raihan "Al-Biruni" (from Uzbekistan)	Mahmud of Ghazni 973-1048	KitabUl Hind He was the inter-civilizational connect between India and The rest of the world.
Marco Polo (from Italy)	Venetian Traveller came during reign of Rudramma Devi of the Kakatiyas 1292-1294	The Travels of Marco Polo
Ibn Battuta (from Morocco)	Reign of Muhammad-Bin-Tughlaq. 1333-1347	" Rehla " (the travelogue)
Shihabuddin al-Umari (From Damascus)	Around 1348.	' Masalikalbsar fi-mamalik al-amsar ': His account of India.
Nicolo Conti (Venetian traveller)	During Sangam Dynasty of Vijayanagar empire. 1420-1421	About Vijayanagara Kingdom.
AbdurRazzaq (Persian traveller)	During Sangam Dynasty of Vijayanagar empire. 1443-1444	About Vijayanagara Kingdom.
Athanasius Nikitin (From Russia)	Visited South India 1470- 1474	During Bahmani kingdom.
Duarte Barbosa (From Portugal)	Vijayanagar Empire	
Domingo Paes (From Portugal)	During Krishnadeva Raya of Vijayanagar Empire	
FernaoNuniz (From Portugal)	Tuluv dynasty of Vijayanagar Empire	

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