

MEDEIVAL HISTORY

THE CHALUKYAS

1. Pulakesin I (543-566) was the first independent ruler of Badami with Vatapi in Bijapur as his capital.
2. Kirthivarma I (566-596) succeeded him at the throne. When he died, the heir to the throne, Prince Pulakesin II, was just a baby & so the king's brother, Mangalesha (597-610), was crowned the caretaker ruler. Over the years, he made many unsuccessful attempts to kill the prince but was ultimately killed himself by the prince & his friends.
3. Pulakesin II (610-642), the son of Pulakesin I, was a contemporary of Harshavardhana & the most famous of the Chalukyan kings. His reign is remembered as the greatest period in the history of Karnataka. He defeated Harshavardhana on the banks of the Narmada.
4. After conquering the Kosalas & the Kalingas, & eastern Chalukyan dynasty was inaugurated by his(Pulakeshin II) brother Kubja Vishnuvardana.
5. In 631, the Chalukyan empire extended from sea to sea. However, Pulkeshin II was defeated & probably killed in 642, when the Pallavas under Narsimhavarma I attack on their capital & captured the chalukyan capital at Badami.
6. The Chalukyas rose to power once again under the leadership of Vikramaditya I (655-681), who defeated his contemporary Pandya, Pallava & Cholas rulers to establish the supremacy of the Chalukyan empire in the region.
7. Vikramaditya II (733-745) defeated the Pallava king Nandivarma II to capture a major portion of the Pallava kingdom.
8. Vikramaditya II's son, Kirtivarma II (745), was disposed by the Rashtrakuta ruler, Dhantidurga, who established the Rashtrakuta dynasty.

THE CHOLAS (9TH TO 13TH CENTURY)

1. The Chola dynasty was one of the most popular dynasties of south India which ruled over Tamil Nadu & parts of Karnataka with Tanjore as its capital.
2. Early Chola rulers were the Karikala Cholas who ruled in the 2nd century.
3. In 850, Vijayalaya captured Tanjore during the Pandya-Pallava wars. To commemorate his accession, he built a temple at Tanjore. The giant statue of Gomateswara at Shravanbelagola was also built during this period.
4. Vijayalaya's son Aditya I (871-901) succeeded him to throne.

5. It was Rajaraja I (985-1014) during which the CHOLAS reached at its zenith. He snatched back lost territories from the Rashtrakutas & become the most powerful of the Chola rulers. Rajaraja is also famous for the beautiful shiva temple which he constructed at Thanjavur(Tamil Nadu). It is called Rajarajeswara after his name.
6. Rajendra Chola (1014-1044), son of Rajaraja I, was an important ruler of this dynasty who conquered Orissa, Bengal, Burma & the Andaman & Nicobar Island. The Cholas dynasty was at its zenith also during his reign. He also conquered Sri Lanka.
7. Kulottunga I (1070-1122) was another significant Chola ruler. Kulottunga I united the two kingdom of the eastern Chalukyas of Vengi & the Cholas of Thanjavur. After a long reign of about half a century, Kulottunga I passed away sometime in 1122 & was succeeded by his son, Vikrama Chola, surnamed Tyagasamudra.
8. The last ruler of the Chola Dynasty was Rajendra III (1246-79). He was a weak ruler who surrendered to the Pandyas. Later, Malik Kafur invaded this Tamil state in 1310 & extinguished the Chola empire.

THE GHAZNAVIS

Mahmud of Ghazni (997-1030)

- (a) He was also known as "But-Shikan" (destroyer of the imag(e) because of seventeen plundering expeditions between 1000 AD & 1027 AD in India.
- (b) Annexing Punjab as his eastern province, he claimed to have come here with twin objectives of spreading Islam in India, & enriching himself by taking away wealth from India.
- (c) In 1025, he attacked & raided the most celebrated Hindu temple of Somnath, Gujarat.
- (d) Beruni who wrote Kitab-ul Hind, & Firdausi, who wrote Shah Namah, were the court Historians of Mahmud Ghazni & give a good account of the polity & society on the eve of Mahmood's invasion. From 1010 to 1026, the invasions were thus directed toward the temple-towns of Thaneswar, Mathura, Kannauj & finally Somnath.

Muhammad Ghori

In AD 1173, Shihab-ud-din Muhammad (AD 1173-1206) also called Muhammad of Ghori ascended the throne of Ghazni. The Ghoris were not strong enough to meet the growing power & strength of the Khwarizmi Empire; they realized that they could gain nothing in Central Asia.

Conquest of Punjab & Sind

(a) Muhammad Ghori led his first expedition in AD 1175. He marched against Multan & freed it from its ruler. In the same campaign he captured Uchch from the Bhatti Rajputs.
(b) Three years later in AD 1178 he again marched to conquer Gujarat but the Chalukya ruler of Gujarat, Bhima II defeated him at the battle of Anhilwara. But by AD 1190 having secured Multan, Sind & Punjab, Muhammad Ghori paved the way for a further thrust into the Gangetic Doab.

Delhi Sultanate

After the assassination of Muhammad Ghori, Qutubuddin Aibek got the control over Delhi.

This period can be divided into 5 distinct periods viz.

1. The Slave Dynasty (1206-90)
2. The Khilji Dynasty (1290-1320)
3. The Tughlaq Dynasty (1320-1414)
4. The Sayyid Dynasty (1414-51)
5. The Lodhi Dynasty (1451-1526).

The Slave Dynasty

Qutubuddin Aibak (1206-10)

- A Turkish slave by origin, he was purchased by Mohammad Ghori who later made him his Governor.
- After the death of Ghori, Aibak became the master of Hindustan & founded the Slave Dynasty in 1206.
- The capital during his reign was not Delhi but **Lahore**.
- For his generosity, he was given the title of **Lakh Bakhsh** (giver of lakhs).
- He died in 1210 while playing Chaugan or Polo.
- He constructed two mosques i.e. Quwat-ul-Islam at Delhi & Adhai din ka Jhohpra at Ajmer.
- He also began the construction of Qutub Minar, in the honour of famous Sufi Saint Khwaja Qutubuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki.
- Aibak was great patron of learning & patronized writers like Hasan-un-Nizami, author of 'Taj-ul-Massir' & Fakhruddin, author of 'Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi'.

Aram Shah (1210)

- He was the son of Aibak, who was defeated by Illutmish in the battle of Jud.

Shams-ud-din Illutmish (1210-36)

- He was a slave of Qutubuddin Aibak of Mamluk tribe & occupied the throne of Delhi in 1211.
- Illutmish began his career as Sar-e Jandhar or royal bodyguard.
- He was a very capable ruler & is regarded as the 'real founder of the Delhi Sultanate'.
- He made Delhi the capital in place of Lahore.
- He saved Delhi Sultanate from the attack of Chengiz Khan, the Mongol leader, by refusing shelter to Khwarizm Shah, whom Chengiz was chasing.
- He introduced the silver coin (tank(a) & the copper coin (jital).
- He organized the Iqta System & introduced reforms in civil administration & army, which was now centrally paid & recruited.
- He set up an official nobility of slaves known as Chahalgani/ Chalisa (group of forty).
- He completed the construction of Qutub Minar which was started by Aibak.
- He patronized Minhaj-us-Siraj, author of 'Tabaqat-i-Nasiri'.

Rukn-ud-din Feroz : 1236

- He was son of Illutmish & was crowned by her mother, Shah Turkan, after death of Illutmish.
- He was deposed by Razia, daughter of Illutmish.

Razia Sultana: (1236 - 40)

- Illutmish had nominated his daughter Razia as the successor, the nobles placed Ruknuddin Feroz on the throne.
- She was the 'first & only Muslim lady who ever ruled India'.
- She use to rule without the veil
- She further offended the nobles by her preference for an Abyssian slave Yakut.
- The wazir of Illutmish Junnaidi revolted against her but was defeated.
- There was a serious rebellion in Bhatinda, Altunia, governor of Bhatinda refused to accept suzerainty of Razia. Razia accompanied by Yakut marched against Altunia.
- However, Altunia got Yakut murdered & imprisoned Razia.
- Subsequently, Razia was married to Altunia & both of them marched towards Delhi as nobles in Delhi raised Bahram Shah (3rd son of Illutmish) to throne.



- In 1240 AD, Razia became the victim of a conspiracy & was assassinated near Kaithal (Haryan(a).

Bahram Shah: 1240-42

- Iltutamish's third son Bahram Shah was put on throne by powerful Turkish council Chalisa.
- He was killed by Turkish nobles.

Allauddin Masud Shah: 1242-46

- He was son of Ruknuddin Feroz.
- He was disposed after Balban & Nasiruddin Mahmud's Mother, Malika-e-Jahan, conspired against him & established Nasiruddin Mahamud as the new Sultan.

Nasiruddin Mahmud 1246-66

- He was the eldest son of Iltutmish.
- Minaj-us-Siraj has dedicated his book Tabaquat-i-Nasiri to him.

Ghiyasuddin Balban : 1266-87

- After the death of Nasiruddin; Balban ascended the throne in 1266.
- He broke the power of Chalisa & restored the prestige of the crown. He made kingship a serious profession.
- The Persian court model influenced Balban's conception of Kingship. He took up the title of Zil-i-Ilahi (Shadow of Go(d).
- He introduced Sijda (prostration before the monarch) & Paibos (kissing the feet of monarch) as the normal forms of salutation.
- Divine right of the king was emphasized by calling himself Zil-i-Ilahi.
- He gave great emphasis on justice & maintaining law & order.
- He established the military department Diwan-i-Arz.
- In his last days he overlooked Sultanate affairs due to death of his eldest & most loving son, Muhammad, & rebellion by his closest & most loved slave, Tughril. Muhammad died fighting Mongolians in 1285 & Tughril was captured & beheaded.

Kaiqubad: 1287-90

- He was the grandson of Balban was established on the throne by Fakruddin, the Kotwal of Delhi.
- But Kaiqubad was killed by khalji nobles.

The Khilji dynasty (1290-1320 A.D.)

Jallauddin Khilji

- Jalaluddin Khilji founded the Khilji dynasty
- He was a liberal ruler & adopted the policy of religious toleration
- His son-in-law & nephew was Allauddin Khalji

Allauddin Khalji (1296-1316)

- He was the first Turkish Sultan of Delhi who separated religion from politics. He proclaimed 'Kingship knows no Kinship'.
- During the reign of Jallauddin Khilji, he was the governor of Kara
- He adopted the title Sikander-e-Saini or the second Alexander
- Alauddin annexed Gujarat (1298), Ranthambhor (1301), Mewar (1303), Malwa (1305), Jalor (1311).
- In Deccan, Aluddin's army led by Malik Kafur defeated Ram Chandra (Yadava ruler of Devagiri), Pratap Rudradeva (Kakatiya ruler of Warangal), Vir Ballala III (Hoyasala ruler of Dwarsamudr(a) & Vir Pandya (Pandya ruler of Madurai).
- Malik Kafur was awarded the title Malik Naib.

Administrative & Market reforms during Allauddin

Allauddin issued 4 ordinances -

1. Aimed at confiscation of the religious endowments & free grants of lands.
2. Reorganized the spy system.
3. Prohibited the use of wine.
4. Nobles should not have convivial parties & they should not inter-marry without his permission.

- He introduced the system of Dagh (the branding of hors(e) & Chehra (descriptive roll of soldiers).
- Alauddin ordered that all land was to be measured & then they share of state was to be fixed.
- The post of special officer called Mustakharaj was created for the purpose of collection of revenue.
- Alauddin sought to fix cost of all commodities.
- All goods for sale were brought to an open market called Sara-i-Adal.
- Many forts were built by him & the most important of them was Alai fort. He also constructed the Alai Darwaja, the entrance gate of Qutub Minar. He also built the Palace of thousand Pillars called Hazar Sutun.
- He was a patron of art & learning. Amir Khusrau, the poet-musician was his favorite court poet.
- **Malik Kafur**
- In 1316, after death of Alauddin, Malik Kafur seized the throne.
- Before Kafur died, he nominated Shihabuddin (Alauddin's 6 year old princ(e) as King but imprisoned eldest prince Mubarak Khan.
- Kafur was killed by the loyalists of the royal family of Allauddin.

The Tughlaq Dynasty

Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq(1321-25)

- Ghazi Malik or Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq of Qaurana tribe was the founder of Tughlaq dynasty.
- He was the governor of Dipalpur before coming to power as Sultan.
- He died in the collapse of the victory pavilion near Delhi.

Mohammad Bin Tughlaq (1325-51)

- Prince Jauna, son of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq ascended the throne in 1325.
- He gained the title Ulugh Khan, he was most educated of all the Sultans of the Delhi Sultanate.
- He created a department Diwan-e-Amir-e-Kohi for the improvement of the agriculture.
- He distributed Sondhar i.e. agriculture loans advanced for extension of agriculture of barren land.
- He encouraged cash crops in place of cereals.

The five experiments during reign of Mohammad Bin Tughlaq -

- **Taxation in the Doab:** The Sultan made an ill-advised financial experiment in the Doab between the Ganges & Yamuna. The Sultan crated a new department of Agriculture called Diwan-i-Kohi.
- **Transfer of Capital:** The most controversial step which Mohammad-bin Tughlaq under took soon after his accession was the so called transfer of capital from Delhi to Devagiri. Devagiri was thus named Daulatabad.
- **Introduction of Token Currency:** Mohammad-bin-Tughlaq decided to introduce bronze coins, which were to have same value as the silver coins.
- **Proposed Khurasan Expedition:** The Sultan had a vision of universal conquest. He decided to conquest Khurasan & Iraq & mobalised a huge army for the purpose. He was encouraged to do so by Khurasani nobles who had taken shelter in his court. Moreover there was instability in Khurasan on account of the unpopular rule of Abu Said. This project was also abandoned because of the change in political scenarioin Khurasan.
- **Quarachil Expedition:** This expedition was launched in Kumaon hills in Himalayas allegedly to counter Chinese incursions.It also appears that the expedition was directed against some refractory tribes in Kumaon-Garhwal region with the object of bringing them under Delhi Sultanate. The first attack was a success but when the rainy season set in, the invaders suffered terribly.

He died in Thatta while campaigning in Sindh against Taghi, a Turkish slave.

Feroz Shah Tughlaq (1351-88)

- He was a cousin of Mohammad-bin Tughlaq.
- He adopted the policy of appeasement with the nobility, the army & theologians.
- The new system of taxation was according to Quran. Four kinds of taxes sanctioned by the Quran were imposed & those were Kharaj, Zakat, Jizya & Khams. Kharaj was the land tax, which was equal to 1/10 of the produce of the land, Zakat was 2% tax on property, Jizya was levied on non-Muslims & Khams was 1/5 of the booty captured during war.
- Firoz tried to ban practices, which the orthodox theologians considered non Islamic. Thus he prohibited the practice of Muslim women going out to worship at graves of saints & erased paintings from the palace.
- It was during the time of Firoz that Jizya became a separate tax.
- In order to encourage agriculture, the Sultan paid a lot of attention to irrigation. Feroz repaired a number of canals & imposed Haque-i-Sharb or water tax.
- He was a great builder as well; to his credit are cities of Fatehabad, Hisar, Jaunpur & Firozabad.
- The two pillars of Ashoka, one from Topra (Haryan(a) & other from Meerut (U.P.) were brought to Delhi.
- The Sultan established at Delhi, a hospital described as Dar-ul-Shifa.
- A new department of Diwan-i-Khairat was set up to make provisions for marriage of poor girls.
- However his rule is marked by peace & tranquility & credit for it goes to his Prime Minister Khan-i- Jahan Maqbul.
- He died in 1388.

The Sayyid dynasty

- Khizr Khan (1414-21)
- Mubarak Shah (1421-34)
- Muhammad Shah (1434-45)
- Alam Shah (1445-51)- He was the last Sayyid king descended in favour of Bahlol Lodhi & he retired. Thus began the Lodhi dynasty.

The Lodi Dynasty

Bahlol Lodi : 1451-89

- Bahlol Lodhi was one of the Afghan sardars who established himself in Punjab after the invasion of Timur.
- He founded the Lodi dynasty.
- Jaunpur was annexed into Delhi Sultanate during his reign.

Sikandar Lodi : 1489-1517

- Sikandar Lodi was the son of Bahlol Lodhi who conquered Bihar & Western Bengal.
- Agra city was founded by him.
- Sikandar was a fanatical Muslim & he broke the sacred images of the Jwalamukhi Temple at Nagar Kot & ordered the temples of Mathura to be destroyed.
- He reimposed Jaziya tax on non muslims.
- He use to write poems with the pen name "Gulrukhi".
- He took a keen interest in the development of agriculture. He introduced the Gaz-i-Sikandari (Sikandar's yar(d) of 32 digits for measuring cultivated fields.

Ibrahim Lodi : 1517-26

- He was the last king of the Lodi dynasty & the last Sultan of Delhi.
- He was the son of Sikandar Lodi.
- At last Daulat Khan Lodi, the governor of Punja invited Babur to overthrow Ibrahim Lodi.
- Babur accepted the offer & inflicted a crushing defeat on Ibrahim Lodi in the first battle of Panipat in 1526.
- He was the only Sultan who died in battle field.

2.2 Administration under Sultanate

There were four pillars of the state :

Diwan-i-Wizarat or finance department

Diwan-i-Risalat or department of religious matters & appeals

Diwan-i-Arz or department of military affairs

Diwan-i-Insha or department of royal correspondence

2.3 Art & architecture under Delhi Sultanate

- The new features brought by the Turkish conquerors were : The dome, the lofty towers, the true arch unsupported by beam, the vault.
- Aibak built a Jami Masjid & Quwwatul Islam mosque, he also began the construction of Qutub Minar.
- Aibak also built the Adhai-din ka Jhonpra at Ajmer has a beautiful prayer hall, an exquisitely carved Mehrab of white marble & a decorative arch screen.
- The first example of true arch is aid to be the tomb of Ghiyasuddin Balban in Mehrauli (Delhi).
- Allauddin Khilji began the work of Alai minar to rival Qutab Minar, but this could'nt be completed because of his death.
- Some notable Tughlaq monuments are the fort of Tughlaquabad, the tomb of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq which marked a new phase in Indo-Islamic architecture.

Mughal period

Babur

- The foundation of the Mughal rule in India was laid by Babur in 1526.
- He was a descendant of Timur (from the side of his father) & Chengiz Khan (from the side of his mother).
- Babur was invited by Daulat Khan Lodi & Alam Khan Lodi against Ibrahim Lodi
- Babur defeated Ibrahim Lodi in the first battle of Panipat on April 21, 1526 & established Mughal dynasty.
- In 1527, he defeated Rana Sanga of Mewar at Khanwa.
- In 1528, he defeated Medini Rai of Chanderi at Chanderi.
- In 1529, he defeated Muhammad Lodi (uncle of Ibrahim Lodi) at Ghaghra.
- In 1530, he died at Agra. His tomb is at Kabul.
- He was the first to use gunpowder & artillery in India.
- Two gun masters Mustafa & Ustad Ali were in his army.
- He wrote his autobiography Tuzuk-i-Baburi in Turkish
- Tuzuk-i-Baburi was translated in Persian (named Baburnam(a) by Abdul Rahim Khan-e-khana & in English by Leyden and Erskine.
- He compiled two anthologies of poems, Diwan (in Turkish) & Mubaiyan (in Persian). He also wrote Risal-i-Usaz or letters of Babur.

Humayun (1530-40 & 1555-56)

- He was the son of Babur & ascended the throne in 1530. His succession was challenged by his brothers Kamran, Hindal & Askari along with the Afghans.
- In 1532 he established Tabl-e-adl at Agra.
- He fought two battles against Sher Shah at Chausa (1539) & at Kannauj/Bilgram (1540) & was completely defeated by him.
- He escaped to Iran where he passed 12 years of his life in exile.
- After Sher Shah's death Humayun invaded India in 1555 & defeated his brothers the Afghans. He once again became the ruler of India.
- He died while climbing down the stairs of his library (at Din Panah) in 1556 & was buried in Delhi.
- Abul Fazal calls him Insan-e-Kamil.
- His sister, Gulbadan Begum wrote his biography Humayunama.
- He built Din Panah at Delhi as his second capital.

Sur Empire (Second Afghan Empir(e) 1540-55

Sher Shah: 1540-45

- He was the son of Hasan Khan, the Jagirdar of Sasaram.
- In 1539, he defeated Humayun in the battle of Chausa & assumed the title Sher Shah as emperor.
- As an emperor, he conquered Malwa (1542), Ranthambhor (1542), Raisin (1543), Rajputana annexation of Marwar (1542), Chittor (1544) & Kalinjar (1545). He died in 1545 while conquering Kalinjar.
- Purana Quila was built during his reign.
- During his brief reign of 5 years he introduced a brilliant administration, land revenue policy & several other measures to improve economic conditions of his subjects.
- He issued the coin called **Rupiah** & fixed standard weights & measures all over the empire.
- He also improved communications by building several highways. He built the Grand Trunk Road (G.T. Road), which runs from Calcutta to Peshawar. The other roads built during his reign were: Agra to Mandu, Agra to Jodhpur & Chittor, Lahore to Multan.
- He set up cantonment in various parts of his empire & strong garrison was posted in each cantonments.
- According to Abul Fazal the empire of Sher Shah was divided into 63 sarkars or districts.
- The unit of land measurement was "bigha".
- Like Allauddin Khalji he also introduced Dagh & Chehra in the army
- Zamindars were removed & the taxes were directly collected.
- He was buried in Sasaram.

Akbar(1526-1605)

- Akbar, the eldest son of Humayun, ascended the throne under the title of Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar Badshah Ghazi at the young age of 14.
- His coronation took place at Kalanaur.
- Second Battle of Panipat (5 Nov., 1556) was fought between Hemu (the Hindu General of Muhammad Adil Shah) & Bairam Khan (the regent of Akbar). Hemu was defeated, captured & slain by Bairam Khan.
- In the initial years of his rule Akbar was first under the influence of his regent Bairam & then under her foster mother Maham Anga.
- The period of influence of Maham Anga on Akbar i.e. from 1560-62 is known as the period of Petticoat government.
- **Reforms by Akbar -**
- Age of marriage for boys & girls was increased to 16 years & 14 years respectively

- **Sati was prohibited**
- In his 24th year Akbar introduced Dashala system for the collection of land revenue by the state.
- The Mansabdari system under Akbar, divided the Mansabdars into 66 categories. This system fixed the following service conditions: Rank & status, Salary, Number of Sawars (horsemen).
- As a revolt against the orthodoxy & bigotry of religious priests, Akbar proclaimed a new religion, Din-i-Ilahi, in 1581. Birbal was the only Hindu who followed this new religion.
- Akbar built Fatehpur Sikri, Agra Fort, Lahore Fort & Allahabad Fort & Humayun's Tomb at Delhi. Fatehpur Sikri, place near Agra. Sheikh Salim Chisti, a Sufi saint blessed Akbar with a son who was named Salim/Sheikho Baba (Jahangir). In honour of Salim Chisti, Akbar Shifted his court from Agra to Fatehpur Sikri.
- Tulsidas (author of Ramcharitmanas) also lived during Akbar's period.
- When Akbar died, he was buried at Sikandara near Agra.
- Birbal was killed in the battle with Yusufzai Tribe (1586).
- Abul Fazl was murdered by Bir Singh Bundela (1601).
- Akbar gave Mughal India one official language (Persian).

Jahangir (1605-27)

- Salim, son of Akbar, came to the throne after Akbar's death in 1605.
- He established Zanjir-i-Adal (i.e. Chain of Justice) at Agra Fort for the seekers of royal justice.
- In 1611, Jahangir married Mihr-un-nisa, widow of Sher Afghan, a Persian nobleman who was sent on expedition to Bengal. Later she was given the title Nurjahan.

BILINGUAL

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PRIME
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- Nurjahan exercised tremendous influence over the state affairs. She was made the official Padshah Begum.
- Jahangir issued coins jointly in Nurjahan's name & his own.
- Jahangir also married Jodha Bai of Marwar.
- In 1608, Captain William Hawkins, a representative of East India Company came to Jahangir's court. In 1615 Sir Thomas Roe, an ambassador of King James I of England also came to his court. He granted permission to the English to establish a trading port at Surat.
- His reign was marked by several revolts. His son Khusrau, who received patronage of 5th Sikh Guru Arjun Dev, revolted against Jahangir (1605). Arjun Dev was later sentenced to death for his blessing to the rebel prince (1606).
- During his last period, Khurram (Shanjahan), son of Jahangir & Mahabat Khan, military general of Jahangir also revolted (Khurram: 1622-25 & Mahabat Khan : 1626-27).
- He wrote his memories Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri in Persian.
- He was buried in Lahore.

Shah Jahan(1628-1658)

- His real name was Khurram, he was born to Jodha Bai (daughter of Raja Jagat Singh).
- Shahjahan ascended the throne in 1628 after his father's death.
- Three years after his accession, his beloved wife Mumtaj Mahal (original name- Arzumand Bano) died in 1631. To perpetuate her memory he built the Taj Mahal at Agra in 1632-53.
- He continued applying tika (tilak) on the fore-head.
- He introduced the Char-Taslim in the court.
- In addition to Jahangir's empire, Nizam Shahi's dynasty of Ahmadnagar was brought under Mughal control (1633) by Shahjahan.
- Shahjahan's reign is described by French traveler Bernier & Tavernier & the Italian traveler Nicoli Manucci. Peter Mundi described the famine that occurred during Shahjahan's time.
- The Red Fort, Jama Masjid & Taj Mahal are some of the magnificent structures built during his reign.
- Shahjahan's failing health set off the war of succession among his four sons in 1657.
- Aurangzeb emerged the victor who crowned himself in July 1658. Shahjahan was imprisoned by his son Aurangzeb in the Agra Fort where he died in captivity in 1666. He was buried at Taj Mahal (Agr(a)).

Aurangzeb(1658-1707)

- The war of succession took place in the later stage of the Shah Jahan reign.

- His four sons Dara Shikoh, Aurangzeb, Shah Shuja & Murad were in the state of war for the throne.
- His daughters also supported one son or the other in the tussle for throne Jahan Ara supported Dara. Roshan Ara supported Aurangzeb. Gauhara supported Murad.
- Aurangzeb was coronated twice, he was the only Mughal king to be coronated twice
- Bernier was the foreign visitor who saw the public disgrace of Dara after he was finally defeated in war at Deorai.
- During the first 23 years of the rule (1658-81) Aurangzeb concentrated on North India. During this period the Marathas under Shivaji rose to power & were a force to reckon with.
- Highest numbers of Hindu Mansabdars were there in the service of Mughals during the reign of Aurangzeb.
- Aurangzeb captured Guru Teg Bahadur, the 9th Guru of Sikhs in 1675 & executed him when he refused to embrace Islam.
- The 10th & last Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, son of Guru Teg Bahadur, organized his followers into militant force called Khalsa to avenge the murder of his father.
- Guru Gobind Singh was, however murdered in 1708 by an Afghan in Deccan. Banda Bahadur, the militant successor of Guru Gobind Singh continued the war against Mughals.

Religious policy of Aurangzeb:

- He was called Zindapir or living saint.
- Muhtasibs were appointed for regulation of moral conduct of the subjects.
- He forbade singing in the court, but allowed musical instruments. He himself played Veena.
- He ended Jhoraka darshan started by Akbar.
- He ordered that no new Hindu temples were to be built. Old temples were allowed to be repaired.
- The Viswanath temple at Kashi & the Keshav Rai temple of Bir Singh Bundela at Mathura were destroyed.
- In 1679 he re-imposed Jaziya tax.

CLASH WITH MARATHAS

- Shivaji was the most powerful Maratha king & an arch enemy of Aurangzeb.
- When Aurangzeb could not eliminate him, he conspired with Jai Singh of Amber, a Rajput, to eliminate Shivaji in 1665.
- On the assurance given by Jai Singh, Shivaji visited Aurangzeb's court. Shivaji was imprisoned by Aurangzeb but he managed to escape & in 1674 proclaimed himself an independent monarch.

- Shivaji died in 1680 & was succeeded by his son Sambhaji, who was executed by Aurangzeb in 1689. Sambhaji was succeeded by his brother Rajaram & after his death in 1700, his widow Tarabai carried on the movements.

Mughal administration

- Mansabdari system:
- Each Mughal officer was assigned a mansab (rank), there were 66 categories of Mansabdars.
- Jahangir introduced Du-Aspah-Sih-Aspah system whereby the specific noble was to maintain double the number of horsemen.

Central administration:

- **Wakil:** He was initially the Prime Minister, however later became revenue advisor only.
- **Mir Bakshi:** He was the head of military department.

Provincial administration:

- The empire was divided into provinces or Subas.
- In 1580, Akbar divided the empire into 12 provinces. The number of provinces became 15 towards the end of his reign.
- In Jahangir's reign the number of provinces rose to 17 & further in Aurangzeb's reign to 21.
- The Nazim or Subedar was the head of provinces.

Local administration:

- The provinces were divided into Sarkars, which were sub divided into Parganas & further into villages.

Mughal Culture:

- Jahangir's reign was the apex culmination for the Mughal painting while that of Shah Jahan was the apex culmination for architecture.
- Babur built two mosques, one at Kabulibagh in Panipat & the other at Sambhal in Rohilakhand.
- Humayun's tomb was built by his widow Haji Banu Begum.
- The Mariam's palace, Diwan-i-Aam, Diwan-i-Khas at Sikri are Indian in their plan.
- Buland Darwaja (built after Gujarat victory), formed the main entrance to Fatehpur Sikri.
- Salim Chisti's tomb (redone in Marble by Jahangir) is the first Mughal building in pure marbl(e). Palace of Birbal & palace of Tansen are also inside the Fatehpur Sikri.
- Akbar also began to build his own tomb at Sikandara which was later completed by Jahangir.
- The architecture of Fatehpur Sikri is known as Epic in red sand stone.

- Nurjahan built Itimad-ud-daula or Mirza Ghiyas Beg's marble tomb at Agra, which is noticable for the first use of Pietra Dura (floral designs made up of semiprecious stones) technique.
- Jahangir built Moti Masjid in Lahore & his mausoleum at Shahdara (Lahor(e)).
- Some of the important buildings built by Shahjahan at Agra are Moti Masjid (only Mosque of marbl(e). Khaas Mahal, Musamman Burz (Jasmine Palace where he spent his last year in captivity) etc.
- He laid the foundations of Shahjahanabad in 1637 where he built the Red Fort & Takht-i-Taus (Peacock thron(e)).
- Only building by Aurangzeb in the Red Fort is Moti Masjid.
- Only monument associated with Aurangzeb is Bibi ka Makbara which is the tomb of his wife Rabbia-ud-daura in Aurangabad.
- Aurangzeb also built the Badshahi Masjid in Lahore.
- Humayun had taken into his service two master painter Mir Syed Ali & Abdus Samad.
- Daswant & Basawan were two famous painters of Akbar's court.
- Abdul Hassan, Ustad Mansur & Bishan Das were three famous painters of Jahangir's court.

The landmark events that took place during the reign of Akbar :

- 1562 - Ban on forcible conversion of war-prisoners into slaves
- 1563 - Abolition of Pilgrimage Tax
- 1564 - Abolition of Jaziya
- 1571 - Foundation of Fatehpur Sikri
- 1579 - Proclamation of 'Mazhar' (written by Faizi)
- 1580 - Dabsala Bandobast introduced
- 1582 - Din-i-Ilahi / Tauhid-i-Ilahi
- 1584 - Ilahi Samvat i.e. Calender
- 1587 - Ilahi Gaz i.e. Yard

Mughal Literature and writers

- Akbar Nama--Abul Fazl
- Tabaqat-i-Akbari--Khawajah Nizamuddin Ahmad Baksh
- Iqbalnama-i-Jahangiri—Muhammad Khan
- Ain-i-Akbari --Abul Fazl
- Padshah Namah-- Abdul Hamid Lahori
- Shahjahan Namah-- Inayat Khan
- Surr-i-Akbar-- Dara Shikoh
- Safinat-ul-Auliya -- Dara Shikoh
- Majma-ul-Bahrain -- Dara Shikoh
- Raqqat-e-Alamgiri – Aurangzeb

Bahadur Shah I (1707-12)

- Muazzam succeeded Aurungzeb after latter's death in 1707.
- He acquired the title of Bahadur Shah.
- Granted Sardeshmukhi to Marathas but not Chauth.
- Released Shahuji (son of Sambhaji) from prison (who later fought with Tarabai).
- Tried to make peace with Guru Gobind Sahib by giving him a high Mansab.
- After Guru's death, Sikhs again revolted under the leadership of Banda Bahadur. This led to a prolonged war with the Sikhs.
- Made peace with Chhatarsal, the Bundela chief & Churaman, the Jat chief.

Jahandar Shah (1712-13)

- Death of Bahadur Shah plunged the empire into a civil war.
- Jahandar Shah, son of Bahadur Shah, ascended the throne in 1712 with help from Zulfikar Khan.
- Zulfikar Khan, his wazir, was virtually the head of the administration.
- Zulfikar Khan abolished jizyah.
- Peace with Rajputs: Jai Singh of Amber was made the Governor of Malwa. Ajit Singh of Marwar was made the Governor of Gujarat.
- Chauth & Sardeshmukh granted to Marathas. However, Mughals were to collect it & then hand it over to the Marathas.
- Ijarah: (revenue farming) the government began to contract with revenue farmers & middlemen to pay the government a fixed amount of money while they were left free to collect whatever they could from the peasants.
- Jahandar Shah defeated in January 1713 by his nephew Farrukhsiyar at Agra.

Farrukhsiyar (1713-19)

- Owed his victory to Sayyid Brothers: Hussain Ali Khan Barha & Abdullah Khan.
- Abdullah Khan: Wazir, Hussain Ali: Mir Bakshi.
- Farrukhsiyar was an incapable ruler. Sayyid brothers were the real rulers.

Sayyid Brothers

- Known the Indian History as King Makers.
- Adopted the policy of religious tolerance. Abolished jizyah.
- Pilgrim tax was abolished from a number of places.
- Marathas: Granted Shahuji Swarajya & the right to collect Chauth & Sardeshmukhi of the six provinces of the Deccan.

- They failed in their effort to contain rebellion because they were faced with constant political rivalry, quarrels & conspiracies at the court.
- Nobles headed by Nizam-ul-Mulk & Muhammad Amin Khan began to conspire against them
- In 1719, the Sayyid Brothers killed & overthrew Farrukhsiyar.

Muhammad Shah 'Rangeela' (1719-1748)

- Weak-minded, frivolous & over-fond of a life of ease.
- Neglected the affairs of the state.
- Naizam ul Mulk Qan Qulik Khan, the wazir, relinquished his office & founded the state of Hyderabad in 1724.
- "His departure was symbolic of the flight of loyalty & virtue from the Empire".
- Hereditary Nawabs arose in Bengal, Hyderabad, Awadh & Punjab.
- Marathas conquered Malwa, Gujarat & Bundelkhand.

Nadir Shah's Invasion (1739)

- Attracted to India by its fabulous wealth.
- The two armies met at Karnal on 13th Feb 1739. Mughal army was summarily defeated. Muhammad Shah taken prisoner.
- Massacre in Delhi in response to the killing of his soldiers.
- Plunder of about 70 crore rupees. Carried away the Peacock throne & Kohinoor.
- Muhammad Shah ceded to him all the provinces of the Empire west of the river Indus.
- Significance: Nadir Shah's invasion exposed the hidden weakness of the empire to the Maratha sardars & the foreign trading companies.

Ahmed Shah Abdali

- One of the generals of Nadir Shah
- Repeatedly invaded & plundered India right down to Delhi & Mathura between 1748 & 1761. He invaded India five times.



- 1761: Third battle of Panipat. Defeat of Marathas.
- As a result of invasions of Nadir Shah & Ahmed Shah, the Mughal empire ceased to be an all-India empire. By 1761 it was reduced merely to the Kingdom of Delhi.

Shah Alam II (1759)

- Ahmed Shah Bahadur (1748-54) succeeded Muhammad Shah.
- Ahmed Shah Bahadur was succeeded by Alamgir II (1754-59).
- 1756: Abdali plundered Mathura.
- Alamgir II was succeeded by Shah Jahan III.
- Shah Jahan III succeeded by Shah Alam II in 1759.
- Shah Alam spent initial years wandering for he lived under the fear of his wazir.
- In 1764, he joined forces with Mir Qasim of Bengal & Shuja-ud-Daula of Awadh in declaring a war upon the British East India company. This resulted in the Battle of Buxar.
- Pensioned at Allahabad.
- Returned to Delhi in 1772 under the protection of Marathas.

Decline of the Mughal Empire

- After 1759, Mughal empire ceased to be a military power.
- It continued from 1759 till 1857 only due to the powerful hold that the Mughal dynasty had on the minds of the people of India as a symbol of the political unity of the country
- In 1803, the British occupied Delhi.
- From 1803 to 1857, the Mughal emperors merely served as a political front of the British.
- The most important consequence of the fall of the Mughal empire was that it paved way for the British to conquer India as there was no other Indian power strong enough to unite & hold India.

The Marathas

Shivaji (1627-80)

- Shivaji was the son of Shahji & Jijabai & was born in the fort of Shivner.
- Shivaji inherited the Jagir of Poona from his father in 1637.
- His guru was Ramdas Samrath.
- After the death of his guardian, Dadaji Kondadev, in 1647, he assumed full charge of his Jagir.
- He conquered many Forts -
- Singh Garh/ Kondana (1643)
- Rohind & Chakan (1644-45)
- Toran (1646)
- Purandhar (1648)

- Rajgarh/ Raigarh (1656)
- Supa (1656)
- Panhala (1659).
- In 1657 Shivaji first confronted the Mughals, talking advantage of the Mughal invasion of Bijapur, he raided Ahamednagar & plundered Junnar.
- In 1659-60, Afzal Khan was deputed by Adil Shah of Bijapur to punish Shivaji; but the later Afzal Khan was murdered by Shivaji in 1659. The famous "baghnakh" episode is related with the death of Afzal Khan.
- In 1660, Shaista Khan, governor of Deccan, was deputed by Aurangzeb to check Marathas. Shivaji lost Poona, Kalyan & Chakan also suffered several defeats till he made a bold attack on Shaista Khan(1663) & plundered Surat (1664) & later Ahmadnagar.
- Raja Jai Singh of Amber & Diler Khan were then appointed by Aurangzeb to curb the rising power of Shivaji in 1665.
- Jai Singh succeeded in beseiging Shivaji in the fort of Purandhar. Consequently the treaty of Purandhar (1665) was signed according to which Shivaji ceded some forts to the Mughals & paid a visit to the Mughal court at Agra.
- In 1666, Shivaji visited Agra but there he was insulted.
- In 1670, Shivaji captured most of the forts lost by the treaty of Purandhar.
- In 1674 Shivaji was coronated at capital Raigarh & assumed the title of Haindava Dharmodharak (Protector of Hinduism).
- After that Shivaji continued the struggle with Mughals & Siddis (Janjir(a). He conquered Karnataka during 1677-80.
- His last expedition was against Ginjee & Vellore.

Shivaji's Administration

- Swarajya was directly under the control of Maratha.
- Chauth & Sardeshmukhi were taxes collected by Marathas.
- Chauth was paid to the Marathas so as not be subjected to Maratha raids.
- Sardeshmukhi was an additional levy of 10% on those lands of Maharashtra over which the Maratha claimed hereditary rights, but which formed part of the Mughal Empire.
- Marathi became the official language.
- Shivaji divided his territory under his rule (Swarajy(a) into three provinces, each under a viceroy. Provinces were divided into Prants which were subdivided into parganas or tarafs.
- Shivaji was helped by the Ashtapradhan (Eight-minister) which was unlike a council of ministers, for there was no collective responsibility; each minister was directly responsible to Shivaji.

Shivaji's Ashtapradhan

- **Peshwa (Mukhya Pradhan):** Finance & general administration, later he became Prime Minister & assumed great importance.
- **Sar-i-Naubat (Senapati):** Military commander. This is an honorary post with no real military powers.
- Later on the ninth minister named Pratinidhi was added by Raja Ram a successor of Shivaji
- Most of the administrative reforms of Shivaji were based on Malik Ambar's (Ahmadnagar) reforms.

Successors of Shivaji

Shambhaji: 1680-1689

- Sambhaji, the elder son of Shivaji, defeated Rajaram, the younger son of Shivaji, in the war of succession.
- He provided protection & support to Akbar II, the rebellious son of Aurangzeb.
- He was captured at Sangameswar by a Mughal noble & executed(killed).

Rajaram: 1689-1700

- He succeeded the throne with the help of the ministers at Rajgarh.
- He fled from Rajgarh to Jinji in 1689 due to a Mughal invasion in which Rajgarh was captured along with Sambhaji's wife & son (Shahu) by the Mughals.
- Rajaram died at Satara, which had become the capital after the fall of Jinji to Mughal in 1698.
- Rajaram created the new post of Pratinidhi, thus taking the total number of minister to nine (Pratinidhi + Ashtapradhan).

Tarabai: 1700-1707

- Rajaram was succeeded by his minor son Shivaji II under the guardianship of his mother Tarabai.
- Tarabai continued the struggle with Mughals.

Shahu : 1707-1749

- Shahu was released by the Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah.
- Tarabai's army was defeated by Shahu at the battle of Khed (1700) & Shahu occupied Satara.
- Shahu's reign saw the rise of Peshwas & transformation of the Maratha kingdom into an empire based on the principle of confederacy.

Balaji Viswanath (1714-20): The First Peshwa

- He began his career as a small revenue official & was given the title of Sena Karte (marker of the army) by Shahu in 1708.
- He became Peshwa in 1713 & made the post the most important & powerful as well as hereditary.
- He concluded an agreement with the Syed Brothers-King Maker (1719) by which the Mughal emperor Farrukhsiyar recognised Shahu as the king of the Swarajya.

Baji Rao I: 1720-40

- Baji Rao, the eldest son of Balaji Viswanath, succeeded him as Peshwa at the young age of 20.
- He was considered the greatest exponent of guerrilla tactics after Shivaji & Maratha power reached its zenith under him.
- Under him several Maratha families became prominent & got themselves entrenched in different parts of India.
- He conquered Bassein & Salsette.

Salsette from the Portuguese (1739).

- He also defeated the Nizam-ul-Mulk near Bhopal & concluded the treaty of Doraha Sarai by which he got Malwa & Bundelkhand from the latter (1738).
- He convinced Shahu for attacking Mughals by saying about Mughals: 'Let us strike at the trunk of the withering tree & the branches will fall of themselves'.

Balaji Baji Rao: 1740-61

- Popularly known as Nana Saheb, he succeeded his father at the age of 20.
- After the death of Shahu (1749), the management of all state affairs was left in his hands.
- In an agreement with the Mughal emperor Ahmad Shah, the Peshwa was to protect the Mughal empire from internal & external enemies (like Ahmad Shah Abdali) in return for Chauth (1752).
- Third battle of Panipat (January 14, 1761) resulted in the defeat of the Marathas by Ahmad Shah Abdali & the death of Viswas Rao & Sadashiv Rao Bhau. This event shocked the Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao & after six months he also died. This battle ended the Maratha power.