

Sultans who came after Razia Sultan

- Behram Shah (1240-42)
- Allauddin Shah (1242-46)
- Nasiruddin Mehmood (1246-1266). Literary source Kat-e-Nassiri dedicated to Nasaruddin Mehmood.

Most important king in this period was Balban

Balban (1266-1287 A.D.)

- He was one of the greatest Sultans of Delhi.
- His title was **Ulluk Khan** or **Ulugh Khan** (great Khan)
- He was famous for consolidating the Delhi Sultanate
- He proposed "Divine Theory of Kingship". He proclaimed himself to be; Naib-e-Khudai
- He also claimed to be descendent of Iranian dynasty "Afrasia" (mythological dynasty described in Shah Nama of Firdausi).
- He named his grandsons after Afrasia dynasty: Kaikobad, Kai Khusro, and Keimur.
- He made strict rules and maintained high level of discipline in court.
- Everybody had to remain standing and serious conduct had to be maintained in the court.
- He introduced "Sajda and Paibos" (Prostration before Sultan and kissing the feet of King)

Others great Sultans were:-

- **Ilttutmish**
- **Alauddin Khalji,**
- **Mohammad Bin Tughlaq**
- **Firoz Shah Tughlaq**

Administration

- He ruled with "Blood and Iron Policy".
- He mercilessly suppressed all revolts very severely so that no group including Umra and local ruler could dare stand against him
- Balban was first king in India who realized importance of protecting borders especially fragile areas of North Western boundaries.
- In Balban's period greatest threat was from the Mongols (In Mughal India threat was from Afghans and Uzbeks)
- Special officers were appointed at border known as "Warden of Marches"
- He maintained a chain of forts manned by soldiers and these Wardens
- Halaku Khan, the Mongol king was most hated person in Islamic world as he had assassinated Caliph of Baghdad. Balban maintained diplomatic ties even with Mongols despite the religious and emotional reasons.

Reason for Divine Theory and court discipline and gestures

- Kings were insecure, and tried to consolidate their position.
- Earlier Sultans had unnatural deaths. Even Balban was also rumoured to have killed previous emperor
- Another reason was that he wanted to restore the power, position and grandeur of Ilttutmish
- For this very reason Balban could rule without any major rebellions in his 20 years of rule.

- Mewat region of Haryana was problem area during this period as people from jungles of Mewat attacked and looted travellers and common people. Balban responded by cutting down jungles, established Thanas manned by Afghans, and arrested and even killed a lot of looters.
- He could maintain and administer entire kingdom with strong hand.
- After his death his tomb was built at Mehrauli. This tomb is **first true arch (Mehrab)** building in India and became trendsetter in later periods.

Delhi Sultanate (contd.)

- The second building of this style was Alai Darwaza constructed by Alauddin Khalji.
- He was succeeded by his grandson Kaikabad.

KHALJI DYNASTY (1290-1320)

- 1287-90 was period of weak kings
- Ilbari dynasty was over thrown by Jalaluddin Khalji, (Khalji is name of Turkish Tribe.)
- The most famous sultan was Allauddin Khalji

Literary Sources:

- The source of information of earlier Sultans was Qat-e-Nasiri
- **Tahrikh-e-Firozshahi** (literally means History of Firoz Shah) by Ziauddin Barni covers history of around 100 years very professionally (1258-1347). He was present during Tuglaq period and was not state sponsored.
- Another book which gives details of this period is "**Ashika**" written by Amir Khusro and "**Muftab-ul-Futooh**" also by Amir Khusro about victories by Jalaluddin and "Khazain-ul-futooh

Jalaluddin Khalji (1290-1296)

- He ended Mamluk or Ilbari dynasty and event is known as "Khalji Revolution"
- He was first Sultan who went beyond Vindhyas (low range hills in M.P.) upto Devagiri in Maharashtra.
- Allauddin Khalji led this campaign. He also defeated Raja Ramchandra Dev and looted the palace.
- Allauddin killed Jalaluddin after he came back to capital and captured the power.

Allauddin Khalji (1296-1316 A.D.) (real name was Ali Gurshasp)

- Important areas of his era: Conquests, military reforms, revenue reforms, market control policy, "Turn-Coat-Policy", Cultural development in this period (art and literature, sculptures were notably absent as sculptures are banned in Islam)

Military Reforms

- He was the first person to keep a permanent army of 3.5 lacs
- He paid soldiers in cash rather than in kind
- He organized the army in decimal system
- He introduced Dagh (branding of Horses and Chehra (Identification of soldiers))

Military conquests

- Gujarat was conquered by his commanders in 1299 A.D.
- Local king (Raja Karan of Bhagela dynasty) was defeated and his wife was brought to court
- He attacked Ranthambore in 1301 A.D. it was strongest fort in this period in India.
- Forts were conquered by method of Qilabandi (Seizure of fort, cutting off supplies and wait for months for the defenders to wear out and run out of supplies)
- King of Ranthambore was Hammir Dev and his queen committed Johar (Sati)
- In 1303 A.D. he attacked Chittor (King was Rana Rattan Singh)
- Chittor was described by Amir Khusro as Seventh Heaven
- Chittor conquest was also described in romanticized and poetic form in "Padmavati", a Hindi drama by Malik Muhammed Jayasi.

Delhi Sultanate (contd.)

- His commander Malik Kafur attacked south India in 1308 A.D.
- The Yadav dynasty (Devagiri), earlier defeated by Alauddin was again defeated by Malik Kafur.
- Malik also defeated Kakatiyas of Warangal, Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra & Pandyas of Madurai
- Policy of Alauddin Khalji was not to annex. He didn't rule the kingdom but allowed the defeated rulers to rule, but they had to pay him some compensation.
- This was a major difference between Tughlaq and Khalji

Revenue Administration

- Land was measured to ascertain ownership
- Revenue assessment was done on basis of land which was sown.
- Half of assessed produce (not the actual produce) was collected as revenue (Kharaj).
- Perhaps for first time such high rates were imposed
- He set up a new department of Diwan-e-Mustakhraj to collect details about the areas of revenue.
- He crushed the powers of intermediaries like Kuth, Muqaddam and Chaudhary who were reduced to penury.
- There are no records for earlier emperors for revenue collection. Hence Allauddin is credited for changes in revenue administration.

Alauddin Khalji (1296-1316) along with **Shershah Suri** and **Akbar** are three main kings which are important in history for changes they brought in revenue administration.

Market Control Policy

- This was a very unique policy which was enacted to maintain a large army
- Three markets were set up in Delhi: 1. Grains, 2. Clothes and 3. Manufactured items and for sale of animals and slaves
- He introduced 16 regulations for these markets in 1302 A.D., the highlights of these regulations were;
 - **Price Control**- commodity would be sold at a price fixed by state and not market. This ensured there was no price fluctuation.
 - **Procurement**- State would procure grains from peasants directly. Delhi was only authorized market.
 - **Registration**- Each trader had to be registered with the market and there was a centralized market
- Facilities were provided for traders and Banjaras (Transporters)
- Reason of success of markets was very good intelligence network; both institutional and direct (king's informants known as "**Munhinyas**")
- Intelligence department was very well developed. He appointed superintendent of markets and officials below him. Superintendent (**Daroga-e-Mandi**) reported to **Diwan-e-Riyasat**.

Turn Coat Policy of Alauddin Khalji

- It refers to policy in which there are group of people who are considered elite (Umra) and this policy is about controlling these people.
- Allauddin was autocrat and didn't believe in sharing power with Umra so he made policies to reduce their influence and power.
 - This group practiced drinking a lot and to counter this, he banned social gatherings.
 - He banned marriages within Umrah to prevent consolidation of their relations.

Delhi Sultanate (contd.)**Cultural Developments during his period in architecture**

- **Allahi Darwaza:** Second true arch building and lay out in shape of horse shoe
- **Jamat –e- Khana:** The first building in India built in completely Islamic style
- **Siri Fort** in Delhi
- He attempted to build another minaret near Qutub Minar known as **Alla-e-Minar**
- He built a house Hauz-e-Alae which was renovated by Firozshah Tughlaq and named as Hauz-e-Khas

Literature**Amir Khusro (1251-1325 A.D.)**

- Amir Khusro was disciple of Nizamuddin Auliya
- Amir Khusro served 5 Sultans of Delhi
- He was historian and wrote a book known as Tughlaq Nama (Ghiyas-ud-din-Tughlaq)
- Another important book was on Indian culture “Noh-e- Sepehr”
- He was pioneer of Qawwali singing in India. (Qawwali is chorus in praise of Sufi saint in the shrines)
- He is also credited with invention of Sitar (three stringed instrument)
- He was also credited with 3 Ragas (Yaman, Sanam and Ghora)
- He was believed to be first Urdu poet.
- He was popularly known as Tootai-e-Hind (Parrot of India)

The rulers after Allauddin Khalji were not powerful. The first **Indian origin Muslim King** was Naseeruddin (1321 A.D.) who came in power for few months during this dynasty. He was a Hindu Convert.

TUGHLAQ DYNASTY

- Main Kings were **Ghiyas-ud-din-Tughlaq** (1320-1325 A.D.) & **Muhammad Bin Tughlaq** (1325-1351)

Ghiyas-ud-din was founder of dynasty and his real name was **Ghazi Malik**

- He reversed policies of Allauddin Khalji’s policies of Kharaj.
- He collected revenue which was 1/3 or ¼ of the produce on basis of actual production.
- A famous fort of Tughlaqabad Fort, near Delhi is credited to him.
- First marble built tomb was built by him opposite this fort.
- According to legend the Chishti saints disliked sultans because of their opulent life style of elite.
- Relations between Nizamuddin Auliya and Ghiyas-ud-din were not good.

Mohammed Bin Tughlaq 1325-1351 A.D.

- His real name was Jauna Khan
- He was most educated and also, the most controversial sultan of Delhi
- Historians consider him as a man of paradoxes, he is also known in history as the “wisest fool”.
- The reason for him being called wisest fool was that he experimented too much, and many of his experiments resulted in failures which caused huge economic losses.
- His court patronized scholars from different backgrounds like Jin Prabha Suri (a Jain Scholar)
- A traveller from Murakhpur, Ibn-e-Batuta (book Kitab-ul-Rihla) was made Qazi of Delhi and was also sent to China on behalf of the king

Delhi Sultanate (contd.)

- He was the first Sultan who celebrated Hindu festivals
- (Akbar's most favourite festival was Janamashtmi)
- He was very secular person, he appointed people on basis of merit instead of religion or ethnicity.

Policies and Programmes of Mohammed Bin Tughlaq which failed

- Transfer of Capital from Delhi to Devagiri (1327 A.D.) and renamed Daulatabad.
- The reason for transfer was that the sultan wanted to rule Deccan region directly, and Devagiri was gateway of South India.
- He had to return to Delhi because of threats of Mongols in North. Transfer of capital caused financial loss as well as death of people. A lot of people perished because the transfer was done in peak of summer.

Impact of transfer of capital

- Many people of North settled in Deccan bringing about influences of culture and language.
- Locals were called Deccani and Afaqis were people who settled from north.
- This linguistic group led to creation of Bahmani Kingdom.

Token currency

- He introduced coins in copper, brass and bronze.
- Brass coins were introduced for the first time in India.
 - Value of brass coin was kept equivalent to one silver tanka, earlier it was 48 brass coins to 1 silver coin.
 - In medieval ages value of metal was more important than the face value of coin.
 - Thus he gave value for money instead of just the metallic value of coin.
 - People started minting coins locally as brass was much cheaper than their face value.
 - It resulted in large currency flow in market causing huge inflation and hampering trade.
- So he had to withdraw this currency.

Expedition to Khurasan

- He raised an army of 3 lac soldiers exclusively for this expedition but later on abandoned the idea.
- This caused huge financial loss and soldiers became unemployed.
- These soldiers were armed and trained and started indulging in looting etc. which created problems in civil administration

Expedition to Karachi

- There was a rebellion in Kangra, Mohd Tughlaq sent an army of 10,000 soldiers to suppress this rebellion.
- The soldiers were not trained for fighting in hilly terrain but opposition were fighting guerrilla war.
- Cold weather and injuries along with diseases caused huge loss of lives of soldiers which created unrest.

Taxation in Doab:

- Doab was most fertile land in Indian Sub-continent
- He ordered the collection of revenue through land assessment at 50% of produce in this area.
- There was a huge unrest in Doab region due to this heavy taxation.
- Situation was compounded by serious drought in this region; hence people were in no position to pay taxes.

Delhi Sultanate (contd.)

- This led to violence in region, tax officials were attacked and crops were burnt.
 - He setup a separate department of agriculture, **Diwan-e-Kohi**, to rectify this situation
 - He provided loans named Takvi and Saundhar to the peasants
 - He collected sample of the land tried to experiment with them making the barren lands fertile, spending a lot of finances on these experiments
 - He tried to change cropping patterns and encouraged farmers to grow cash crops

Firoz Shah Tughlaq (1351 a.d. – 1388 a.d.)

- He is known in Medieval History as the “Welfare King”
- He set up 3 departments for public welfare and better administration.
 - Diwan-e-Khairat
 - Diwan-e-Imarat
 - Diwan-e-Risalath
- He built maximum number of irrigation canals on river Yamuna and Sutlej (Some more than 100km Long)
- He collected tax, **Haq-e-Shirb** (10%) from peasants who were using water from irrigation canals.
- He built many hospitals (Shifa Khanas)
- He built many orphanages and widow homes
- He also started marriage bureaus to help poor people in marriages and employment bureaus to help youth in employment
- There was large no. of slaves in his empire. He trained the slaves and helped them in providing self-employment

Literary evidence of this period

- **Tariqh e Firoz Shahi** written by Ziauddin Barni, this privately written book describes four different reigns or Sultans of Delhi
- **Tarikh e Firozshahi** written by Shams Siraj Afif (Official book, as writer was employed with Firoz Shah Tughlaq)
- **Fatawa-e-Jahandari** by Ziauddin Barni (Political philosophy of Medieval Indians)
- **Futuh-e-Firozshahi** an autobiography of Firoz Shah

Orthodox Religious Policies

- He separated Jazia from Kharaj (Earlier it was collected along with Kharaj, the revenue on agriculture)
- He collected Jazia even from Hindu theologians (pundits). This created anger among Hindus.
- He attacked Hindu temples – Jwala Temple in H.P. and Puri in Orissa
- He banned female entry into shrines of Sufi saints
- He tried to ban some Muslim festivals because he declared it un-Islamic e.g. Shab-e-barat
- His most serious crime was to burning alive a Brahmin for converting Muslims to Hinduism.

Architecture

- Firoz Shah Kotla in Delhi
- He repaired Hauz-e-Allai
- He repaired and constructed one floor of Qutub Minar
- Qala Masjid in old Delhi

LAST FEW DYNASTIES

1. **Sayyid Dynasty (1414-1451)** - Its founder was Khizr Khan
2. **Lodhis (1451-1526)**
 - Three important kings were Bahlol Lodhi, Sikandar Lodhi & Ibrahim Lodhi

Delhi Sultanate (contd.)

- Lodhis were the first Afghan rulers in India
- They introduced a new currency “Pehloyi”
- Bahlol Lodhi was the first Sultan of Delhi to capture Kashmir
- **Sikander Lodhi** built Agra in 1504 A.D. and shifted capital from Delhi to Agra in 1506 A.D.
- Ibrahim Lodhi was last king
- He faced attack from Babur
- Babur invaded India five times
- First Battle of Panipat was in 1526 AD
- In his period famous Lodhi gardens of Delhi was built
- Another important monument is Tomb of Sikander Lodhi which has the first evidence of Double dome in India inside Lodhi gardens in Delhi

DECLINE OF DELHI SULTANATE

- Success of Babur is mainly because of failure of Indian Rulers
- Iktadari system was made hereditary by Firoz Shah Tughlaq.
- Iktadaar’s son or son-in-law would get Ikta after his death. This policy was used in Army as well.
- Regular conspiracies in court caused by Umra weakened the State
- Rulers after Firoz Shah were not great and could not control the vast empire

REGIONAL KINGDOMS IN DECCAN REGION

- Vijaya Nagar Kingdom (1336) and Bahmani Kingdom (1347) emerged almost together during Mohammed Bin Tughlaq’s rule
- Both empires fought against each other for over two centuries over Raichur Doab between Krishna and Tungbhadra and also fought for Krishna Godavari Delta and Marathwada region.
- Battleground of these two kingdoms was in Raichur Doab
- Even after split of Bahmani kingdom, the separated kingdoms continued to fight with Vijaya Nagar Kingdom.
- Though the kings of divided Bahmani Kingdoms fought amongst themselves, whenever anyone kingdom fought with Vijayanagar they pooled their resources together against Vijayanagar Empire.
- Main reason for this factor was that Vijayanagar was Hindu kingdom and rest of Bahmani Kings were Muslim.
- Two famous battles which were fought between these kingdoms were:
- Battle of Talikota – decisive battle – 1526 A.D.
- Battle of Bannihatti 1565 A.D. (Battle of Rakkasa Tangadi)
- They defeated Vijayanagar in both the battles.