

Great — I'll go question-by-question, give the correct answer, then explain **why each option is right or wrong** and add short background/context so you can remember it easily for exams. I double-checked the key facts while preparing this (sources cited after the relevant explanations).

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## Q1 — Which statements are true about Muhammad bin Tughlaq?

Options:

1. He introduced measures to regulate market.
2. He introduced monetary reforms.
3. He increased the taxes paid by the people of the Doab region.
4. He invited leaders of different faiths for religious discussion.

**Answer: (2) and (3) are correct.**

**Why:**

- **(2) Monetary reforms — TRUE.** Muhammad bin Tughlaq famously experimented with a *token currency* (brass/copper tokens meant to circulate as equal to silver/gold). The experiment failed because of counterfeiting and loss of confidence. ([Testbook](#))
- **(3) Increased taxes in the Doab — TRUE.** To finance his large military and administrative plans he raised the land revenue (khara) in the fertile Ganga–Yamuna Doab. This, coupled with famines, caused distress and rebellions. ([Shaalaa.com](#))
- **(1) Market regulation — FALSE for Muhammad bin Tughlaq.** Major market regulation (price-control, spies, bans on hoarding, regulated purchases and fixed prices) is the hallmark of **Alauddin Khilji**, not Muhammad bin Tughlaq. ([Wikipedia](#))
- **(4) Invited leaders of different faiths for religious discussion — NOT a standard/important policy attributed to him.** Muhammad bin Tughlaq was an eccentric and patron of learning, but inviting leaders of different faiths as an institutional state policy is not recorded as his key reform (this kind of policy is more associated with some other rulers or Sufi/royal courts). So treat (4) as **incorrect** for a standard MCQ.

**Memory tip:** *Token coins + high taxes in Doab = Tughlaq experiments gone wrong.*

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## Q2 — Difference between Danish and Dutch — are they same?

Short answer: No — not the same.

Explain:

- **Danish** refers to people/empire of **Denmark**. The Danes had a **very minor** colonial presence in India (Tranquebar, Serampore). They set up small trading posts and had **no major political role**.
- **Dutch** (from the **Netherlands**) were represented by the **Dutch East India Company (VOC)** — one of the most powerful commercial organizations in the 17th century. The Dutch focused on **spice trade** and created a commercial empire centered mainly in **Indonesia**; in India their role was significant commercially (Pulicat, Nagapattinam) but politically they were not a long-term territorial power in India. ([Wikipedia](#))

**Exam tip:** If a question asks “Danish = Dutch?”, answer **no** and mention the difference in scale and origin (Denmark vs Netherlands) and that the VOC was a major commercial giant.

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## Q3 — Which of the following were NOT included in Alauddin Khilji’s market regulation?

Options:

- A. The Sultan fixed prices of food grains far below usual rates.
- B. He imported necessities by relaxing import duty.
- C. He followed a non-intervention policy as far as civil supplies were concerned.
- D. Advances were given to merchants if they did not possess enough capital.

**Answer: (C) — He followed a non-intervention policy — is NOT included** (i.e., it is false).

**Why (covering each option):**

- **(A) Fixed prices — TRUE.** Alauddin fixed maximum prices for foodgrains, cloth, slaves, animals etc. Price control was central to his policy. ([Wikipedia](#))
- **(B) Importing necessities — TRUE (in spirit).** Alauddin took active measures to ensure supplies — he controlled trade, discouraged export/hoarding and arranged for purchases/imports to stabilize supply. (He did not follow laissez-faire.) ([Magadh Mahila College](#))

- **(C) Non-intervention in civil supplies — FALSE.** This is the opposite of Alauddin's policy. He **intervened heavily** (market control, spies, storehouses, supervised purchases). So non-intervention would **not** describe his policy. ([Wikipedia](#))
- **(D) Advances to merchants — TRUE.** Alauddin registered merchants, controlled their operations, and to ensure supply sometimes provided arrangements/advances to ensure commerce flowed; he controlled credit and trade by regulators (this is an often-stated feature in exam notes). ([Prepp](#))

**Memory tip:** *Alauddin = active state control (spies, fixed rates, no laissez-faire).*

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## **Q4 — Rana Kumbha of Mewar built the famous tower of victory (Vijaya/Vijay Stambh) to commemorate his victory against which kingdom?**

Options: Gujarat, Marwar, Malwa, Mewar.

**Answer: Malwa (and combined forces of Malwa & Gujarat led by Mahmud Khalji).**

**Why:** Rana Kumbha (1440s) built the **Vijaya Stambh** (Vijay Stambh) in Chittorgarh in 1448 CE to commemorate his victory over the army of the Sultan of **Malwa** (Mahmud Khilji). Some sources note the combined Malwa-Gujarat force; the primary antagonist was **Malwa**. ([Wikipedia](#))

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## **Q5 — The Sultan of Delhi reputed to have built the biggest network of canals in India was:**

Options: Iltutmish, Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq, Firoz Shah Tughlaq, Sikandar Lodi.

**Answer: Firoz Shah Tughlaq.**

**Why:** Firoz Shah (1351–1388) is well known for irrigation works — canals connecting rivers (Yamuna canals, bringing water to Hissar etc.), numerous wells, sarais and public works. British historians called him a major cultivator of irrigation projects. ([Testbook](#))

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## **Q6 — Who was the last ruler of the Tughlaq dynasty of the Delhi Sultanate?**

Options: Firoz Shah Tughlaq, Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq, Nasiruddin Muhammad, Nusrat Shah.

**Answer: Nasir-ud-Din Mahmud (often cited as Nasiruddin Muhammad / Nasiruddin Mahmud Shah II).**

**Why:** Nasir-ud-Din Mahmud (also referenced as Nasiruddin Mohammad) is recorded as the last Tughlaq sultan (died 1413) before the Sayyid dynasty/Timur disruptions. ([Wikipedia](#))

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## Q7 — (Series of statements) — Who does this describe?

Statements: organized efficient spy system to prevent fraud, began branding horses and preparing descriptive rolls (chehra), remarkable market regulation, set aside supremacy of ulema in discharge of state duties — choose among Sikandar Lodi, Firoz Shah Tughlaq, Alauddin Khilji, Qutbuddin Aibak.

**Answer: Alauddin Khilji.**

**Why / Explanation of options:**

- **Alauddin Khilji** is the ruler associated with: strict market regulation, an efficient intelligence/spying system, branding and registering horses (to maintain cavalry standards), descriptive rolls (chehra) for soldiers and servants, and curbing the powers of nobles and some religious elites to strengthen central authority. ([Wikipedia](#))
- **Sikandar Lodi** and **Firoz Shah** had their own administrative reforms, but the combination of market policing + branding horses + widespread espionage is specially associated with **Alauddin Khilji**. **Qutbuddin Aibak** was an early Sultan (slave dynasty) — his reforms do not match the above.

**Memory tip:** *Alauddin = markets + spies + horse-registers + tough central control.*

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## Q8 — The battle at Waihind (1008–09) was fought between whom?

Options: Muhammad of Ghazni & Anandapala; Muhammad of Ghazni & Jayapala; Muhammad Ghori & Prithviraj; Muhammad Ghori & Jayachandra.

**Answer: Muhammad of Ghazni vs Anandapala.**

**Why:** The Battle of Waihind (also spelled Waihind/Wajhind) in 1008–09 AD was fought between **Mahmud of Ghazni** and **Anandapala** (the Hindu Shahi ruler). This battle is recorded in many standard histories. ([GKToday](#))

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## Q9 — In the Delhi Sultanate an administrative unit called ‘pargana’ was headed by which official?

Options: Shiqdar, Barid, Amil, Ariz (user provided slightly different names earlier).

**Answer: Shiqdar** (or in many sources the *amil* is revenue officer; exam questions vary — so read wording carefully).

### Explanation & precautions:

- **Shiqdar (Shikdar)** — generally responsible for law & order, head of the pargana in many administrative descriptions; acted as a local executive, often combined fauzdar and kotwal functions in the pargana. Some exam books list **Amil** as the revenue officer of a pargana (in Mughal context *amil/amil* collects revenue, *qanungo* and *amil* have roles). Because MCQs sometimes use slightly different administrative terminology depending on Sultanate vs Mughal differences, check the exact phrasing of the question. For the Delhi Sultanate MCQ format you quoted earlier, the commonly accepted answer is **Shiqdar** for head of pargana. ([examrobot.com](#))

**Exam tip:** If the question explicitly asks “administrative head in Sultanate period,” choose **Shiqdar**; if it asks “revenue collector of pargana (Mughal terms)” the answer can be **Amil**. Always read the exact question stem.

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## Q10 — Mughal dynasty was to Bahadur Shah Zafar as Lodi dynasty was to — ?

Options: Bahlul Lodi, Daulat Khan Lodi, Ibrahim Lodi, Sikandar Lodi.

**Answer: Ibrahim Lodi** (last ruler of the Lodi dynasty).

**Why:** Bahadur Shah Zafar (Zafar) was the **last Mughal emperor**; the equivalent “last ruler” of the Lodi dynasty was **Ibrahim Lodi** (defeated by Babur at Panipat, 1526). ([Testbook](#))

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## Q11 — Chronological order of visitors to India:

Names given: **Abdur Razak (Abd al-Razzaq)**, **Idrodo Barbosa (Duarte Barbosa)**, **Marco Polo**, **Niccolo de' Conti**. (You asked for correct chronological order of their visits.)

**Correct chronological order (earliest → latest):**

**Marco Polo → Niccolò de' Conti → Abdur-al-Razzāq → Duarte Barbosa (Idrodo/Barbosa)**

**Why / Dates (exam-style):**

- **Marco Polo** — late 13th century (returned to Venice by 1295); his travels are the earliest among the list.
- **Niccolò de' Conti** — early 15th century; visited India around ~1420. ([Wikipedia](#))
- **Abd-al-Razzāq (Abdur Razzak)** — 15th century Persian envoy who visited **Vijayanagara** in the **1440s** (he was active c.1413–1482). ([Wikipedia](#))
- **Duarte Barbosa (Idrodo Barbosa)** — Portuguese factor/traveller in India early 16th century; his book completed c.1516; visits around 1500–1516. ([Wikipedia](#))

**Memory tip:** *Marco Polo (13th) → Conti (early 1400s) → Abd al-Razzāq (mid-1400s) → Barbosa (early 1500s).*

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**Q12 — Match the following (authors & works). You listed: Minhaj Siraj, Ziauddin Barani, Firoz Shah, Abdul Wahid Bilghami — and works: *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*, *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi*, *Hakiki Hindi (Haqaiq-e-Hindi)*, *Futuh-e-Firoz Shahi / Fatuha-e-Firoz Shahi* (the set the user provided looked scrambled).**

**Correct/more reliable matches & brief notes:**

- **Minhaj-i-Siraj** → ***Tabaqat-i-Nasiri***. (He authored *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*, 13th c.) ([Wikipedia](#))
- **Zia-ud-Din Barani** → ***Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi* (and *Fatwa-i-Jahandari*)**. (Barani wrote *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi* covering the period including Firoz Shah.) ([Google Translate](#))
- **Meer Syed Abdul Wahid Bilgrami** → ***Haqaiq-e-Hindi* (Haqaiq-i-Hindi / Hakiki Hindi)**. (Abdul Wahid Bilgrami wrote *Haqaiq-e-Hindi* in 1566; this corresponds with your “Hakiki Hindi” option.) ([Wikipedia](#))

- **About *Futuh/Futuhāt-i-Firoz Shahi* (or *Fatūha-e-Firoz Shahi*):** There are **two** “**Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi**” texts (e.g., Shams-i-Siraj Afif also wrote a *Tarikh* of Firoz Shah). If one of your options is *Fatūha-e-Firoz Shahi*, the author is **not** Firoz Shah himself; it is usually associated with chroniclers like **Shams-i-Siraj Afif** or other contemporaries. So be careful — **Firoz Shah** (the ruler) is not typically the *author* for the scholarly work named after him; authors are Barani or Afif.  
([ia801500.us.archive.org](http://ia801500.us.archive.org))

**Exam tip:** For match questions, memorize the core pair:

- **Minhaj-i-Siraj → Tabaqat-i-Nasiri**
- **Ziauddin Barani → Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi**
- **Abdul Wahid Bilgrami → Haqaiq-e-Hindi**

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### Quick recap (answers list)

1. Muhammad bin Tughlaq: **(ii) & (iii)** true.
2. Danish ≠ Dutch (different countries; Danes minor in India; Dutch = VOC).
3. Alauddin Khilji — **(C) non-intervention** NOT included (i.e., he intervened).
4. Rana Kumbha's Vijay Stambh commemorated victory over **Malwa** (Mahmud Khalji).
5. Biggest network of canals — **Firoz Shah Tughlaq**.
6. Last Tughlaq ruler — **Nasir-ud-Din Mahmud**.
7. Spy system + branding horses + market regulation etc. — **Alauddin Khilji**.
8. Battle of Waihind (1008–09) — **Mahmud of Ghazni vs Anandapala**.
9. Head of pargana (Sultanate context) — **Shiqdar** (read question wording carefully; *amil* is revenue officer).
10. Lodi dynasty last ruler analogue to Bahadur Shah Zafar → **Ibrahim Lodi**.
11. Foreign travellers order → **Marco Polo** → **Niccolò de' Conti** → **Abd-al-Razzāq** → **Duarte Barbosa**.
12. Matching authors → **Minhaj-i-Siraj : Tabaqat-i-Nasiri; Ziauddin Barani : Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi; Abdul Wahid Bilgrami : Haqaiq-e-Hindi** (and note

*Firoz-Shahi* chronicles also by other authors like Shams-i-Siraj Afif).

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If you want, I can:

- Convert this whole MCQ-wise explanation into a **one-page PDF** for revision (clean layout with Q → answer → 2–3 line explanation), or
- Produce **flashcards** (Anki style) for each item, or
- Generate a **timeline/one-page chart** covering the persons/events we discussed.

Which of those would help you most right now?

Here is a **clean, exam-oriented, conceptual explanation** of every doubt you asked — **with rulers, chronology, differences, context, and all options explained**.

I'll keep it structured so that you can revise quickly.

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## 1. Two versions of *Tārīkh-i-Fīroz Shāhī*

There are **two books with almost the same name**, but **different authors, different rulers, and different purposes**.

### **(A) *Tārīkh-i-Fīroz Shāhī* — by Ziauddin Barani**

- **Period covered:** From **Ghayasuddin Tughlaq** (1320) to early **Firoz Shah Tughlaq**.
- **Barani lived under:**
  - Mohammad bin Tughlaq
  - Firoz Shah Tughlaq
- **Type:** A political chronicle.
- **What it contains:**
  - Administration of early Tughlaqs

- His advice on kingship and governance
- Criticism of Mohammad bin Tughlaq's experiments

### **(B) *Tārīkh-i-Fīroz Shāhī* — by Shams-i-Siraj A'fīf**

- **Period covered: Full reign of Firoz Shah Tughlaq (1351–1388).**
- **A'fīf lived under:**
  - Only **Firoz Shah Tughlaq**
- **Type:** Biographical eulogy.
- **What it contains:**
  - Firoz Shah's public works
  - Canals, gardens, hospitals, wells
  - Reforms, taxes, irrigation, slavery system

#### **Exam one-liner:**

*Barani covers up to early Firoz; A'fīf covers only Firoz.*

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## **2. The foreign travellers — rulers under whom they visited India**

### **✓ Marco Polo (1292 CE approx.)**

- **Period: Panduya & Kakatiya kingdoms (South India).**
- Mentioned **Kakatiya Queen Rudrama Devi**.
- Also wrote on Malabar spice ports.

### **✓ Nicolo de Conti (1420–1421 CE)**

- **Visited: Vijayanagara Empire**
- **Ruler: Deva Raya II (1424–1446)**
- Described Hampi city, army, women, markets.

#### ✓ **Abdul Razzaq (1443–1444 CE)**

- **Persian traveller from Timurid court**
- **Visited: Vijayanagar**
- **Ruler: Deva Raya II**
- Most detailed foreign account of Vijayanagara.

#### ✓ **Duarte Barbosa (1516 CE)**

- **Portuguese officer**
- **Visited: Vijayanagar**
- **Ruler: Krishna Deva Raya (1509–29)**
- Wrote on ports, trading practices, and social customs.

#### **Exam line:**

**Marco Polo → Kakatiyas; Conti → Deva Raya II; Abdul Razzaq → Deva Raya II; Barbosa → Krishna Deva Raya.**

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## **3. Bahadur Shah Zafar – any famous battle?**

Bahadur Shah Zafar (1857) **did NOT fight a formal battle.**

But he became:

- **Symbolic leader of 1857 Revolt**

- Last Mughal ruler
- Exiled to Rangoon by the British

**No famous battlefield victory/defeat** is associated with him.  
His “defeat” is **political**, not military.

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## ✓ 4. Administrative officers of Delhi Sultanate

You asked about **Shiqdar, Barid, Amil, Ariz** — here is the table:

Officer	Function
<b>Shiqdar</b>	Law & order at <b>Pargana</b> level
<b>Amil / Amalguzar</b>	<b>Revenue officer</b> in districts
<b>Barid / Barid-e-Mumalik</b>	<b>Intelligence (spy) officer</b>
<b>Ariz-i-Mumalik</b>	<b>Military administrator</b> , in charge of recruitment, horses, equipment

📌 **Exam one-liner:**

*Shiqdar – police; Amil – revenue; Barid – intelligence; Ariz – army.*

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## ✓ 5. Famous battles of all the options (MCQ: Battle of Waihind)

**Battle of Waihind (1008 CE)**

✓ **Muhammad Ghazni vs Anandpal — Correct**

- Also called **Battle of Peshawar**
- Ghazni won, Hindu Shahi kingdom collapsed.

Now **other options explained:**

### **Ghazni vs Jayapala**

- **Battle of Peshawar (1001 CE)** – Ghazni defeated **Jayapala**
- Jayapala later committed self-immolation
- This is different from Waihind

### **Ghori vs Prithviraj (1189–1192)**

- **First Battle of Tarain (1191)** – Prithviraj wins
- **Second Battle of Tarain (1192)** – Ghori wins
- NOT related to Waihind

### **Ghori vs Jayachandra**

- **Battle of Chandawar (1194)** – Ghori defeats Jayachandra
- Jayachandra = Gahadavala ruler of Kannauj
- Not related to Waihind or Ghazni

### **Exam chronology:**

1. **1001** – Ghazni vs Jayapala
  2. **1008** – Ghazni vs Anandpal (Waihind)
  3. **1191** – Tarain I
  4. **1192** – Tarain II
  5. **1194** – Chandawar
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## ✓ 6. Last ruler of Tughlaq dynasty — Nasir-ud-din Mahmud (Nasiruddin Muhammad)

- Reigned **1394–1413**
- Weak ruler
- Controlled only a small area around Delhi
- **Sayyid Dynasty began in 1414** under **Khizr Khan**, governor of Timur

### How the Tughlaqs ended?

- Timur invaded India in **1398**
  - Delhi was destroyed
  - Tughlaqs became figurehead rulers
  - After Nasiruddin Mahmud died, **Sayyids replaced them**
  - No major achievements due to constant civil war and economic decline
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## ✓ 7. Canals under Delhi Sultanate & Mughals

### Delhi Sultanate

#### ✓ Firoz Shah Tughlaq

- Built **largest canal network**
- Renovated Yamuna canal
- Brought water to Hissar, Firozabad

- Most important irrigation works before Mughal times

## Mughals

The ruler who built/extended the **maximum canals**:

### ✓ Shah Jahan

- Western Yamuna Canal renovated
- Eastern Yamuna Canal built
- Increased agricultural revenue

Others:

- **Akbar**: First Mughal canal projects begun
- **Jahangir**: Minor improvements

### 📌 Exam one-liner:

*Firoz Tughlaq (Sultanate) — largest canal system.  
Shah Jahan (Mughal) — most important canal works.*

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## ✓ 8. Rana Kumbha – Vijay Stambh & War with Malwa

### Vijay Stambh (Kirti Stambh)

- Built by **Rana Kumbha (1433–1468)**
- Located in **Chittor**
- To commemorate victory over:
  - ✓ **Mahmud Khalji of Malwa** (Battle of Sarangpur, 1437)

**Is Mahmud Khalji part of Delhi Khalji dynasty?**

✗ NO.

## **Khilji of Malwa ≠ Khilji of Delhi**

- **Delhi Khalji Dynasty** → Alauddin Khilji, etc.
- **Malwa Khalji Dynasty** → Mahmud Khalji I

**Completely different dynasties**, only same Central Asian ethnic name.

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**If you want, I can convert all of this into a beautiful PDF summary also.**

Would you like me to prepare one?