



ISLAM AND EARLY MUSLIM INVADERS

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PRE SULTANATE ERA (AD 712-1206)

- Why Arabs attacked India?
- Arabic Invasion by Mohammed-bin-Qasim
- Significance of Arab Conquest
- Turkish Invasion
- Alp-ta-Gin
- Sabuktagin
- Mahmud of Ghazni's campaign in India
- Mohammed Ghori

BRIEF HISTORY OF ISLAM

- Prophet Mohammed (570-632AD)- ISLAM started around late 6th century AD or early 7th century AD.
- MECCA and MEDINA- Initial regions where the religion began.
- After the death of Mohammed, the person who used to lead the Muslims were called Khalifa or Caliph. They were both religious and political head of the people.
- After the death of Mohammed, the first Khalifa elected was Abu-Bakr in 632AD.
 - He was succeeded by Umar-al-Khattab, who annexed the Byzantine territories of Syria, Palestine and Egypt.
- There were 4 different caliphates (caliphates means kingdom of the Khalifa)

BRIEF HISTORY OF ISLAM

- They expanded rapidly under these 4 caliphates. They used annexation of territories as a tool to propagate Islam.
 - **Rashidun Caliphates 632-661**- 4 rightly guided Caliphs, namely Abu Bakr, Umar al-Khattab, Uthman and Ali. All were alive at the time of Mohammed. Under them, Islam spread to entire Arabian peninsula (Oman Yemen and Saudi)
 - **Ummayyid- 661-750 AD- Damascus**- spread Islam throughout Iran, North Africa, Egypt
 - **Abbasids-750-1251- Baghdad** — Golden age of Arab civilization or Islam. (Research in astronomy, astrology, mathematics, Science, architecture etc took place.)
 - **Ottoman Caliphates** – 1517-1924- Istanbul

ARAB INVASION OF SINDH

- Mohammed-bin-Qasim's invasion in Sindh was a part of forward policy of the Umayyad governor of Iraq, named Mansoor Hajjaj.
- Precursor:
 - 632AD: Hazrat Mohammed died. Post of KHALIFA was created. ABU BAKR was the first Khalifa
 - 634 AD: Abu Bakr was succeeded by Umar-al Khattab, who annexed the Byzantine territories of Syria, Palestine and Egypt.
 - 636 AD: Planned to attack India, but the attack did not materialize.



ARAB INVASION OF SINDH

- **711 AD:**

- Hajjaj was sent with gift laden ships by king of Ceylone (Sri Lanka).
- This ship was captured by pirates of Debal, a port @Sindh
- Sindh was ruled by a king named Dahir
- Hajjaj demanded from Dahir to set free those ships. But Dahir said he did not have control over the pirates, hence could not do so.

- **712 AD:**

- Hajjaj sought permission from the Khalifa to attack Sindh- was granted permission after some hesitation.
- The first 2 attacks failed.

ARAB INVASION OF SINDH

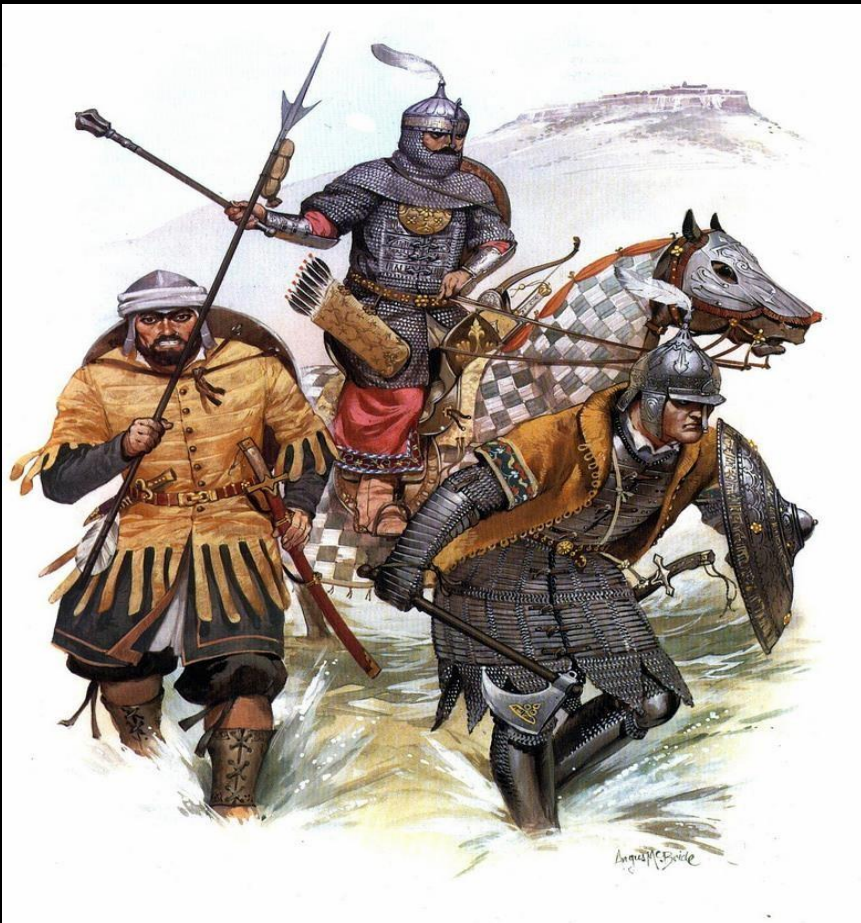
- **712 AD (Cont..)**

- The 3rd attack led by Mohammed-bin-Qasim was successful.
- He along with a strong army Marched towards Sindh and conquered Debal (ruled by Dahir's nephew). He also overran few other strongholds.
- Till now, Dahir offered no resistance- Either he was confident of defeating Qasim or he did not care much.
- **Battle of Brahmanabad:** Qasim defeated Dahir and captures Sindh
- Dahir dies. His son Jaisingha offered some resistance before fleeing.
- After the death of Mohammed-bin-Qasim, Jaisingha recaptures Brahmabad. But he was executed by the Arab governor of Sindh, Junaid- sent expedition to interior India but failed.

SIGNIFICANCE OF ARAB CONQUEST

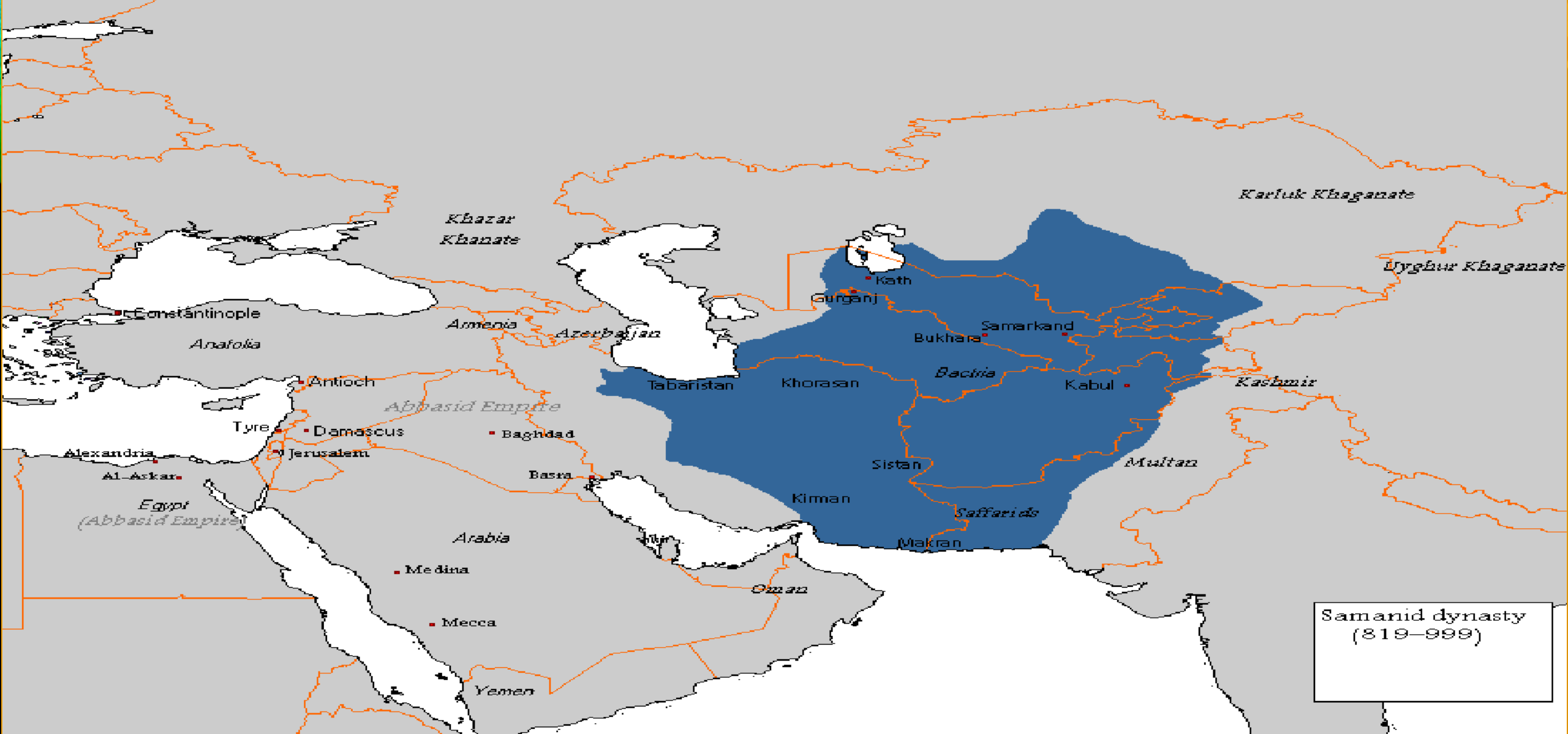
- Very limited effect on politics of India as they could not break the military strength of India.
- Arabs were the first to establish an Islamic state in India.
- The Arab conquest led to the transmission of Indian culture to the Islamic world, and from there to Europe by the Arabs.
- They learnt about Indian numerals, medicine, astronomy, chess, geometry and grammar
- Indians learnt about history, geography, Yunani and chemistry.

TURKISH INVASION



- **Who are Turks?**

- Ferocious warriors and barbaric in nature- Martial Tribe.
- Tribes which included warriors, merchants, craftsmen etc.
- These tribes converted into Islam and unified.
- First settled in Iran, Afghanistan and finally came to India.
- While in Iran, they adopted the culture of Iran (Iranized) and adopted their language Persian, which became the official language in the courts. [Delhi Sultanate and Mughals' official language]



Towards the end of Ninth Century AD, Trans-Oxiana (ancient name used for Central Asia comprising of modern day Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Southern Kyrgyzstan- Referred as TURAN by Iranians), Khurasan (North Eastern part of Iran) and Parts of Iran were ruled by SAMANIDS- had regular feud with the tribal Turkish Muslims. These battles gave birth to a new type of mercenary soldiers- GHAZI, who battled for the Iranians and fought for safeguarding Islam.

TURKISH INVASION

- **Alp-ta-Gin:**

- Samanid Governor and a Turkish Slave (Mameluk)
- After Samanid empire lost power, Alp-ta-Gin moved to the mountains of Afghanistan and established an independent kingdom of Ghazni.
- Died in 975 AD.

- **Sabuktagin:**

- Slave and son-in-law of Alp-ta-Gin, whom he succeeded to the throne of Ghazni.
- Turned his attention towards east- Crossed river Indus and added Western Punjab to his dominions
- Title of Nasir-ud-Dawa given by Abassid Khalifa Qadir
- Defeated Hindu Shahi Ruler Jayapala in 987 AD
- Died in 997 AD.



Ghaznavid
Empire
975-1187

• Urgench
• Bukhara

• Samargand i

Kabul

Herat

Ghazna

Ghaznavid Empire 975-1187

MAHMUD OF GHAZNI

- Son of Sabuktagin, ascended the throne in 998AD
- In order to strengthen his position in Central Asia, he needed wealth. Hence, turned his attention to India .
- Also a religious fanatic who aimed to spread Islam.
- Said to have made 17 raids to India
- Initial raids were directed against the Hindu Shahi rulers. In 1001, a furious battle was fought between Mahmud and Jayapala near Peshawar (Battle of Waihind- 1001). Jayapala died- was succeeded by his son Anandapala – was defeated by Mahmud in 1008.
- Important raids:
 - Peshawar (Waihind)-1001
 - Bhera- 1004
 - Nagarkot-1007
 - Thanesar- 1014
 - Tarain and Kanauj- 1018
 - Somnath-1025.



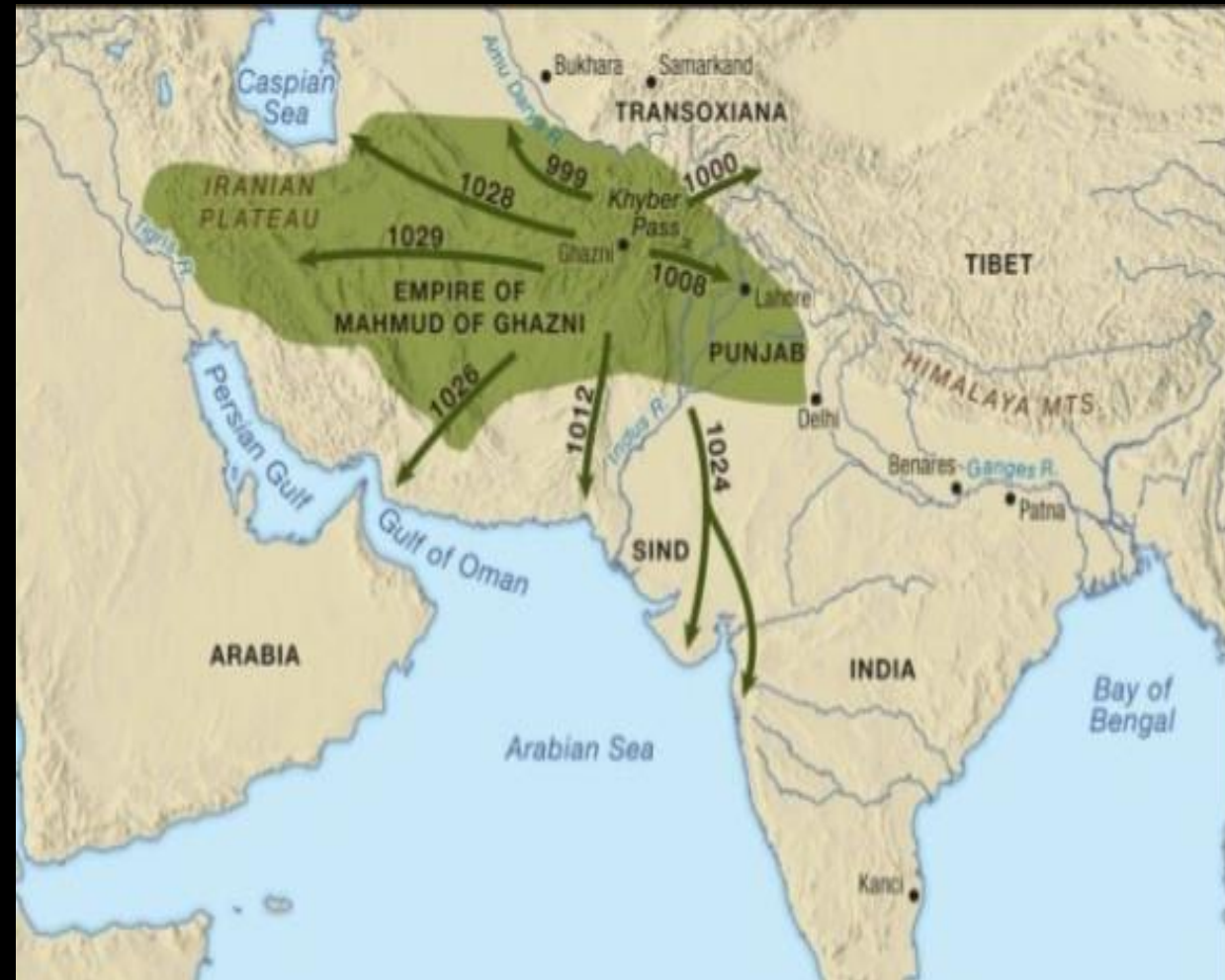
MAHMUD OF GHAZNI

- In 1018, Mahmud attacked Kannauj, ruled by Gurjara-Pratihara ruler Rajyapala. He ran away when Mahmud attacked
- In 1025, Mahmud attacked Somnath Temple in Gujarat. Said to have broke the Shivalingam and ordered the stones to be brought back to Ghazni in order to make staircase in the royal palace
- When Mahmud's army was advancing to plunder Somnath, the local inhabitants were so sure that Lord Shiva would save them that they stood calmly.
- But when killing and plundering took place, nearly 50,000 people were killed.
- 1300 kg of Gold and million of dollars of dinars were looted.



MAHMUD OF GHAZNI

- Known as 'But-shikhan', or destroyer of images.
- Last raid was against the Jats, who attacked his army after his raid @Somnath. Returned to take revenge in 1026 and defeated them.
- Died at the age of 59 around 1030 AD.
- The invasion of Mahmud opened the way for the future Muslim adventures in India. The repeated success of Mahmud was an eye opener for the Muslim thirst for consolidating themselves politically, economically and to promote their religious outlook.



MAHMUD OF GHAZNI

- Mahmud was a successful general and a conqueror who never suffered defeat.
- Apart from war, he was a patron of art, architecture and literature.
- His capital Ghazni was adorned by many beautiful buildings, mosques, libraries, a museum and a university.
- In his court, scholars like Al-Beruni and Persian poet Firdausi received his patronage
- Firdausi wrote the great epic- *Shahnama*.
- **Al-Beruni** spent 10 years and wrote a book describing India: *Tehqiq-i-Hind*



MUHAMMED GHORI

- Shahabuddin Muhammed of Ghur- Originally from Afghanistan.
- Mohammad Ghori invaded Multan in about 1175-76AD.
- In 1178 he attempted the conquest of Gujarat. He was strongly resisted by Bhimdev II who inflicted a crushing defeat on him in 1178 AD.
- In 1179 he conquered Peshwar, annexed Lahore and seized
- Tabarahinda (Bathinda, Punjab)- Made Prithviraj Chauhan to react.
- **1191 AD (1st Battle of Tarain)** : Mohammad Ghori met Prithvi Raj Chauhan in the first battle of Tarain. He had to face combined armies of Prithviraj, the Chauhan ruler of Ajmer and Delhi.
- Muhammad Ghori was severely wounded and outnumbered. He was defeated and left the battle-field.



MUHAMMED GHORI

- **1192 AD (2nd Battle of Tarain):** In the very next year in 1192 AD both the armies met again at Tarain. This time Mohammad cleverly out did Prithvi Raj Chauhan. The gateway to Delhi was opened.
- **1194 AD (Battle of Chandawar):** In 1194, Muhammad of Ghor and Jaichand of Kannauj of the Gahadavala dynasty fought the Battle of Chandawar.
 - It was held in Chandawar (modern Chandawal near Firozabad), on the Yamuna River near Agra.
 - Muhammad Ghor defeated and killed Jaichand, Prithviraj's father-in-law and the greatest Rajput ruler of Kanauj.
 - The victory in this battle gave Muhammad control of much of northern India.



MUHAMMED GHORI

- **Conquest of Bengal and Bihar**
 - Muhammad-bin-Baktiyar Khilji, one of Muhammad of Ghori's commanders, destroyed Vikramasila in 1202 AD.
 - He also destroyed Nalanda University in 1203 AD.



CONCLUSION

- Mohammad Ghorī died in 1206AD.
- **Appointed 3 governors:**
 - Qutubuddin Aibak- Ajmer, Lahore and Delhi
 - Qabacha- Multan
 - Bakhtiyar Khilji- Bengal.
- The Arab invasion resulted in the formation of two separate Muslim kingdoms, Sindh and Multan. However, the Turk invasion resulted in Muslim dominion over a major area of North India.