



THE DELHI SULTANATE

1206-1526



Muhammad ibn al-Qāsim
(695-715 AD)

- **Battle of Debal (712 AD)**
 - **Battle of Aror**



Mahmud Ghaznavi (971-1030)
**• Invasion of Somnath (1025-26
AD)**



Muhammad Ghori (1149-1206 AD)
• First Battle of Tarain (1191 AD)
**• Second Battle of Tarain (1192
AD)**

- **Muhammad Ghori**, a ruler from the [Ghurid dynasty](#) based in the [Ghor region](#) (Present day Afghanistan), defeated Prithvi Raj Chauhan, the Chauhan ruler of Ajmer, Delhi and parts of the Punjab, in the **2nd battle of Tarain** in 1192 and occupied his vast territory of Northern India.
- Ghori also defeated the **Gahadavala ruler Jai Chandra**, the ruler of **Kannauj** in the **battle of Chandawar** in 1194, capturing the territory up to Varanasi.
- **Muhammad bin-bakhtiyar Khalji**, one of the commanders of Muhammad Ghori conquered Bihar from the late Palas in 1197 and Bengal from the last Sena ruler Lakshman Sena in 1199.
- It was through these and few other conquests, which the Turkish Empire, conquered by Muhammad Ghori, came to extend from the Indus to the Bay of Bengal.
- Muhammad Ghori's sudden death in 1206 resulted in a scramble for supremacy among his three important generals –
 - i. **Outb-ud-din Aibak** (a viceroy of Md. Ghori and commander of his army in India)
 - ii. **Taj-ud-din Yalduz** (ruler of Karman and Sankuran between Afghanistan and Sindh)
 - iii. **Nasir-ud-din Qubacha** (ruler of Uchh)



GHURID EMPIRE

Gurgan

Merv

Nishapur

Firozkoh

Ghazni

Lahore

Multan

Delhi

Ajmer

Thatta

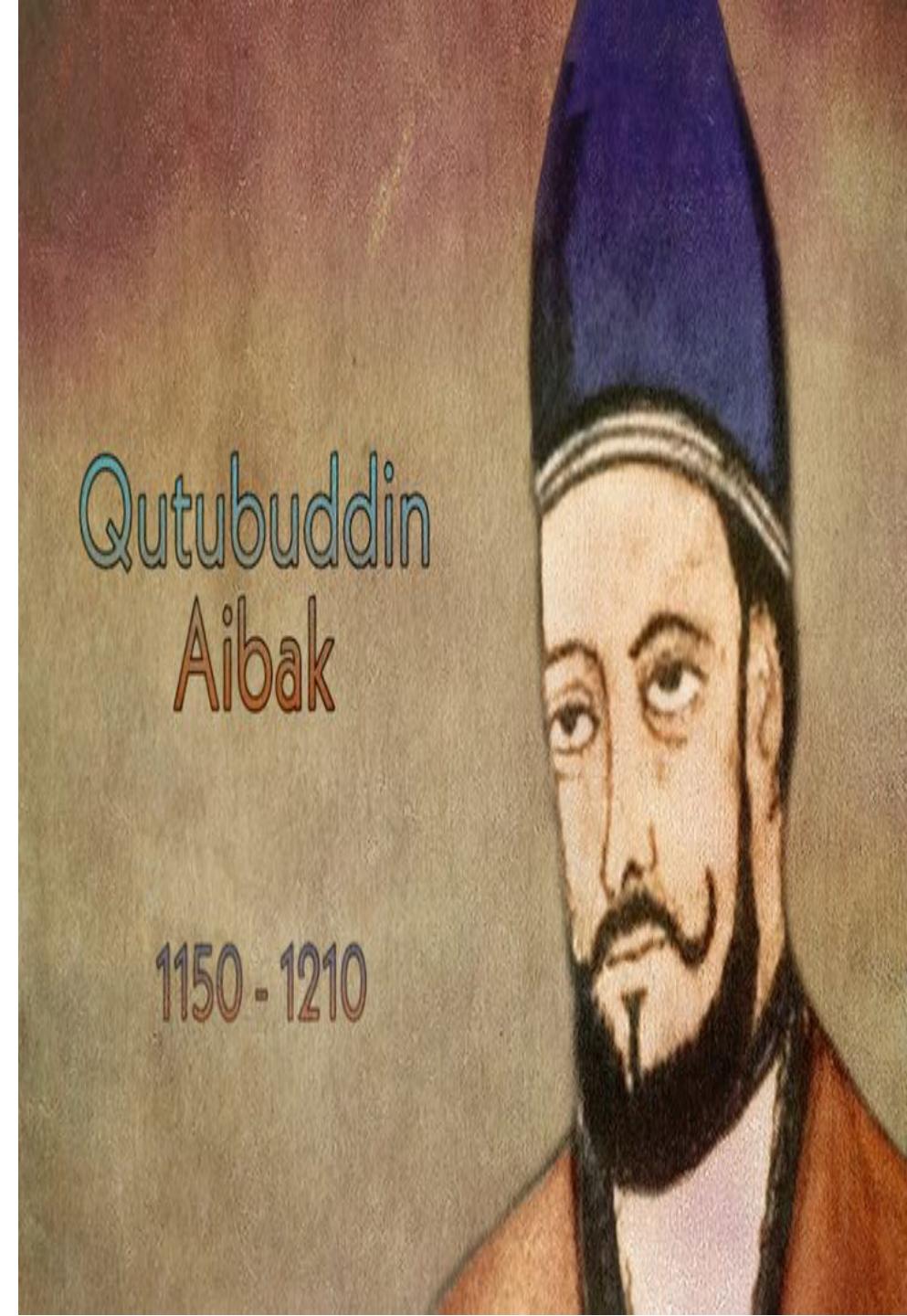
Banaras

Lakhnauti

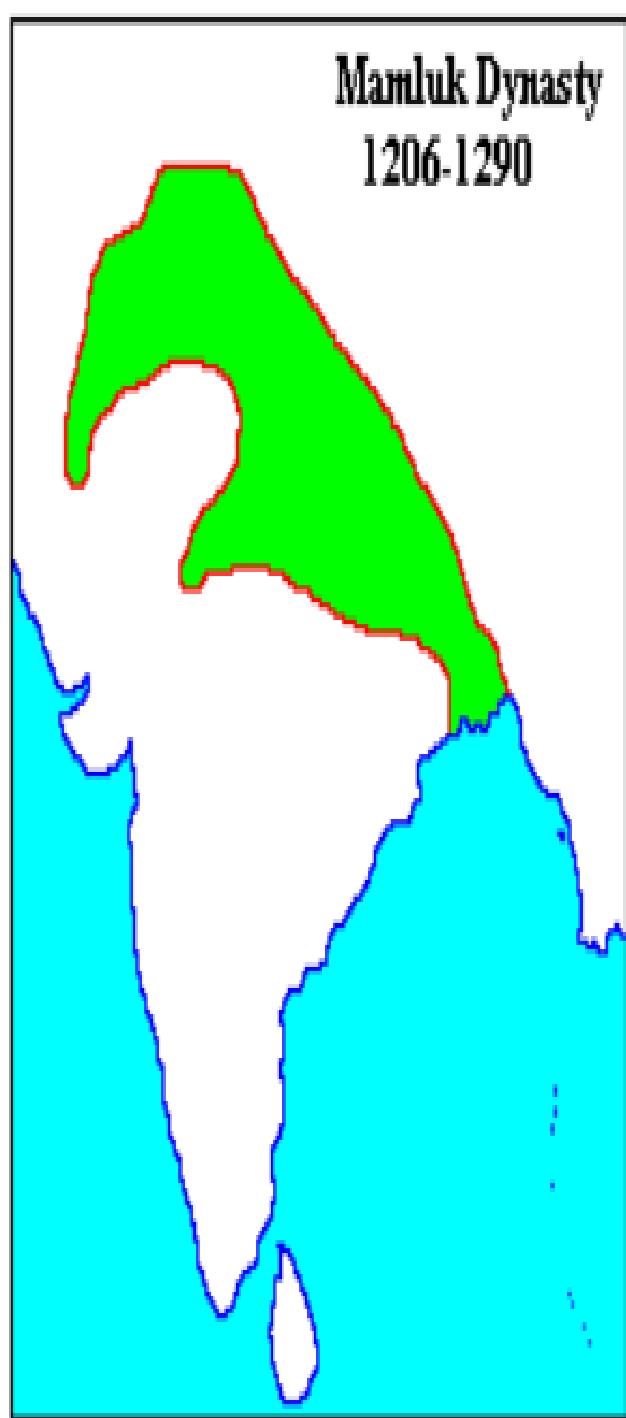
Nudiyā

Barisal

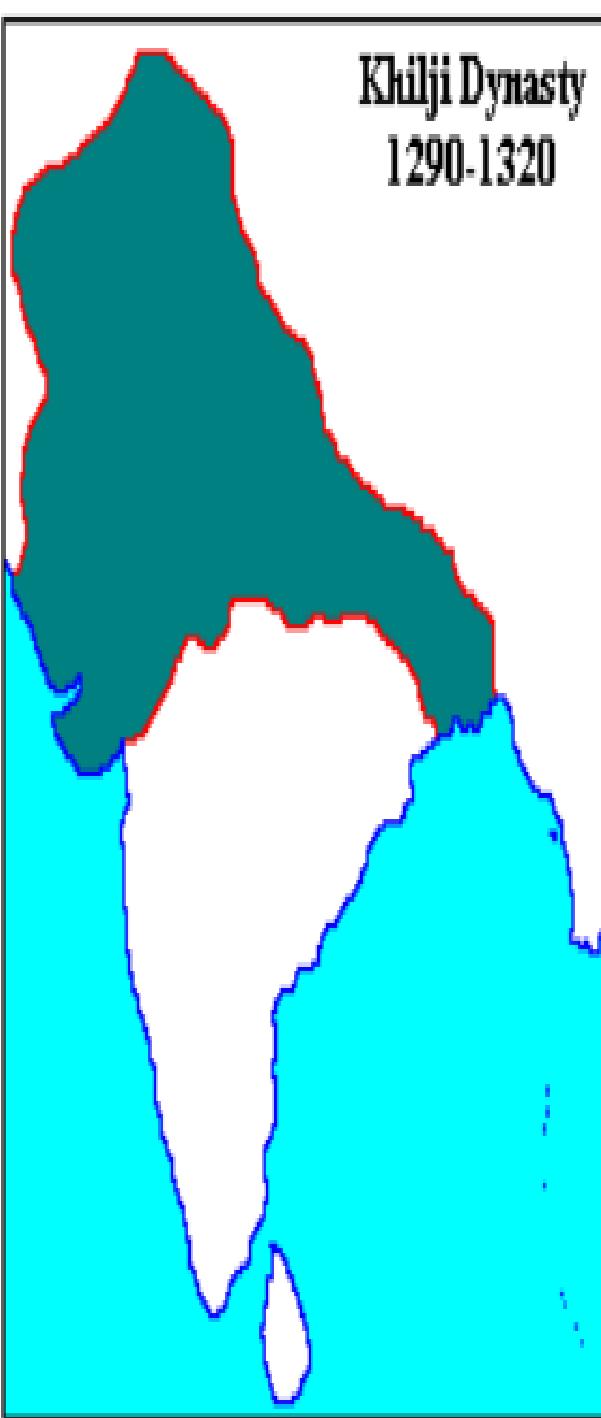
- At the time of Md. Ghori's death, Aibak was at Lahore, where he assumed the sovereign powers at the insistence of the citizens of the city.
- The assumption of sovereign powers by Aibak in 1206 is regarded as the foundation of the Delhi Sultanate.
- The Sultanate of Delhi had five ruling dynasties –
 - i. **Slave Dynasty (1206-90)** : Maximum number of rulers
 - ii. **Khalji Dynasty (1290-1320)** : Ruled for shortest time
 - iii. **Tughlaq Dynasty (1320-1413)** : Ruled for longest time
 - iv. **Sayyid Dynasty (1414-51)** : Short territory
 - v. **Lodi Dynasty (1451-1526)** : Least number of rulers
- Of these five dynasties the first three were of Turkish origin, the origin of the Sayyids is disputed but the Lodis were Afghans.



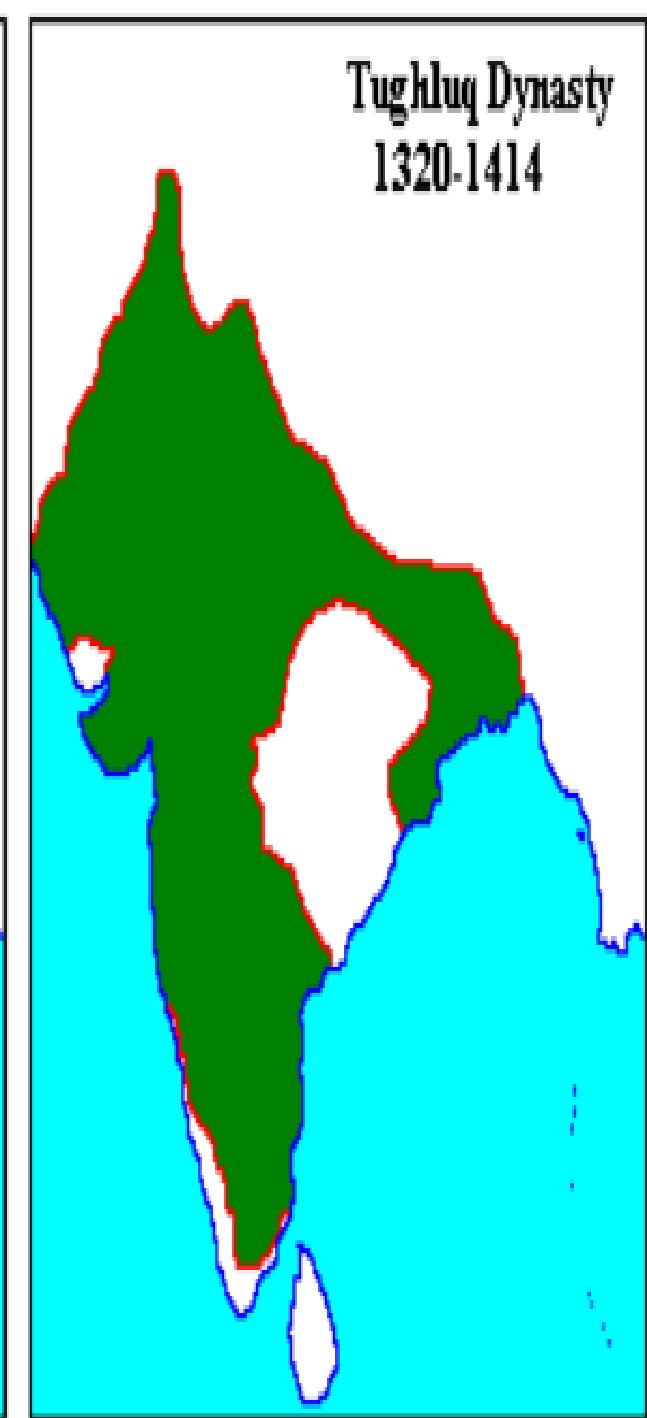
Mamluk Dynasty
1206-1290



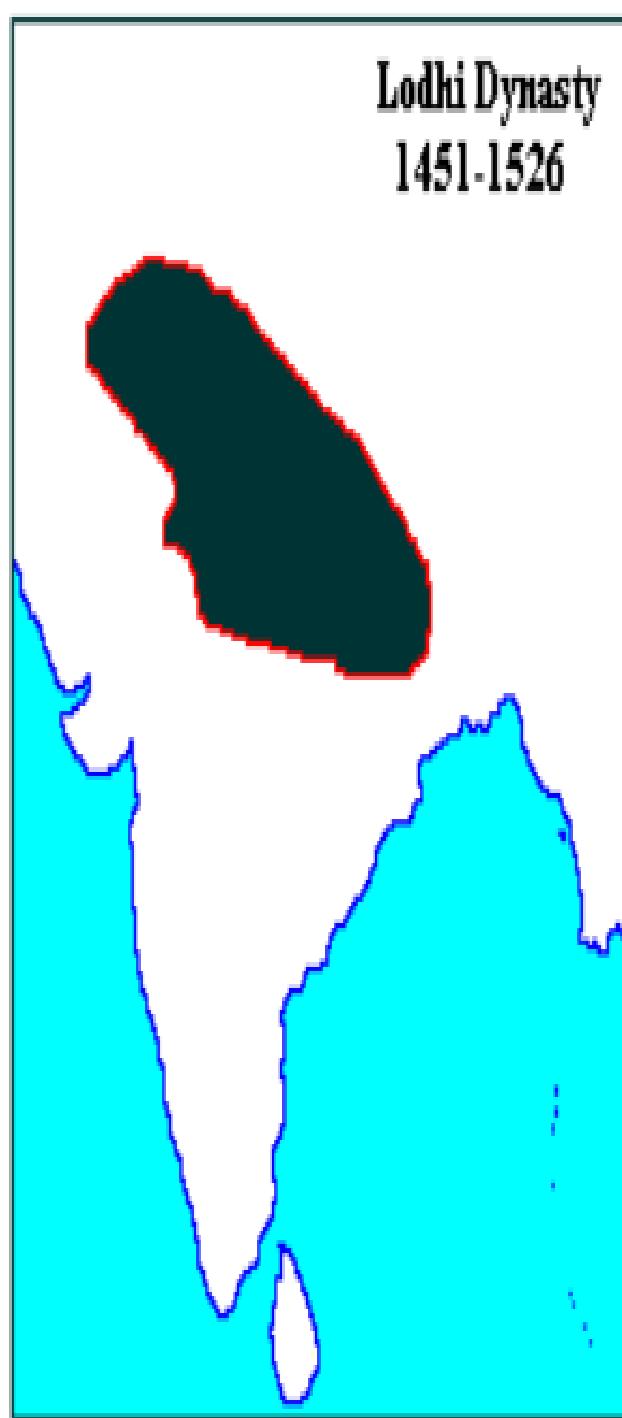
Khilji Dynasty
1290-1320



Tughluq Dynasty
1320-1414



Lodhi Dynasty
1451-1526



Slave Dynasty(1206-90)

- Rulers of the dynasty –
 - i. **Qutub-ud-din Aibak** : 1206-10
 - ii. Aramshah : for a couple of months
 - iii. **Iltutmish** : 1210-1236 (longest serving)
 - iv. Rukunuddin Firuz : 1236-for 7 months
 - v. **Sultana Razia** : 1236-40
 - vi. Maizuddin Bahram Shah : 1240-42
 - vii. Alauddin Masud Shah : 1242-46
 - viii. Nasiruddin Mahmud : 1246-66
 - ix. **Ghiyas-ud-din Balban** : 1266-87 (slave of Iltutmish)
 - x. Kaiqubad : 1287-1290 (superseded by the Khaljis)
- Slave dynasty is also called **Ilbari Turk** or **Mamluk Turk** dynasty.
- Out of all the rulers of this dynasty **Aibak**, **Iltutmish** and **Balban** had been slave during their early life.

- He was a Turk of the **Aibak** (*Lord of the Moon* in Turkish) tribe.
- He was ultimately purchased by Md. Ghori and gradually rose to the post of 'Amir-i-akhur' (the master of the royal stable).
- First ruler of slave dynasty and the first Muslim ruler of India as well.
- Lahore was his capital.
- Conquest of Aibak –
 - i. Ajmer in 1195
 - ii. Gwalior in 1196
 - iii. Gujarat in 1197
- Built *Quwat-ul-Islam Mosque* in Delhi.
- Built *Adhai din ka Jhopra mosque* at Ajmer.
- Started building *Qutub Minar* in the memory of the Sufi saint Khwaja Qutubuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki at Delhi.
- He died in 1210 at Lahore by an accidental fall from horse while playing 'Chaugan' (Polo).



Shamsuddin Iltutmish –

- Iltutmish was a slave of Qutubuddin Aibak purchased in Delhi at a price of 1 lakh Jitals.
- During Aibak's reign he held the posts of '*Amir-i-Shikar*' and governor of Gwalior, Baran and Badaun respectively.
- He was the longest serving ruler of the dynasty.
- He is considered the **real founder** of the Turkish rule in India.
- **Brought capital to Delhi.**
- He built **Sultan Garhi**.
- He commenced his career as a ***sari-jandar*** (head of the royal bodyguard).
- He started the ***Iqta System***
- ***Turkana-i-Chihalgani*** or ***Chalisa***: Iltutmish who was the third ruler of the Slave dynasty of Delhi constituted a council of 40 loyal slaves Amirs, known as ***Turkana-i-Chihalgani*** or ***Chalisa***. It was the selected body of Turkish nobility, who assisted the Sultan in the exercise of his administration and political authority. It was destroyed by Balban later.
- He introduced two coins –
 - Copper coin : ***Jittal***

- First Mongol invasion under **Chengiz Khan** in 1221 was during his reign but Iltutmish averted it by refusing to give shelter to Khwarizm ruler **Jalal-ud-din Shah** whom Chengiz Khan was chasing.
- In 1228 Multan and Sindh were annexed to the Delhi Sultanate.
- Iltutmish reasserted his control over Bihar and Bengal (Ghiyasuddin Khalji was the then ruler of Bengal) in 1229.
- Between 1226 and 1231 he reconquered Ranthambor, Ajmer, Sambhar, Nagur and Gwalior.
- In 1234-35 he led an expedition against Malwa and captured Bhilsa.
- The conquest of Ujjain was followed by the demolition of the ancient Mahakal Temple.
- The **3rd battle of Tarain** was fought between **Iltutmish and Tajuddin Yalduz**. Yalduz was defeated, imprisoned and killed.
- In 1227 Iltutmish defeated Nasiruddin Qubacha at Uchch(Multan) and then at Bhakkhar. Qubacha was drowned in a river when fleeing away.
- In 1229, Iltutmish received the **Mansur** or ‘Patent of Investiture’ from the Abbasid Caliph of Bagdad.
- Minhas-us-Siraj, the author of ‘Tabaqat-i-Nasiri’ was patronised by Iltutmish.
- Completed the construction of Qutb Minar.
- Iltutmish was succeeded by his son **Ruknuddin Firuz Shah** who was crowned by her mother, Shah Turban. But he was later dethroned by Razia, daughter of Iltutmish when he was out of the capital to curb a



Tomb of Iltutmish, New Delhi, India.

Razia Sultana –

- She was the daughter of Iltutmish and was appointed by Iltutmish as successor.
- She was the only Muslim woman who ever ruled Delhi.
- She declared herself as Sultana in 1236.
- She discarded *Purdha*, and began to adorn male attire.
- During her reign the most serious conflict took place between the Shias and the Sunnis.
- She crushed the rebellions in Multan, Lahore (by Kabir Khan) and Hansi.
- There was a serious rebellion in Bhatinda.
- **Altunia**, governor of Bhtinda refused to accept sovereignty of Razia.
- Razia accompanied by Yakut marched against Altunia.
- Subsequently she married Atluniya.
- Razia and Altunia both were beheaded on October 14, 1240 at Kaithal (Haryana), while marching towards Delhi, by her brother Bahram Shah.

Ghiyas-ud-din Balban –

- Balban was the greatest of the Slave dynasty.
- Originally he belonged to the race of Ilbari Turk.
- His original name was **Baha-ud-din** in his childhood.
- He was awarded the title of ***Ulugh Khan***.
- In the beginning he was appointed as a '***Bhishti***' (water man).
- He supported **Bahram** to rebel against Razia, in return Barham offered Balban the Jagir of Rewari.
- During 1245 Balban successfully faced the Mongol invasions under Mangu.
- He was Prime minister, Naib-i-Mamlatkat, during the time of Nasir-ud-din Mahmud.
- Blaban claimed that the king was the 'Shadow of the God on Earth' – ***Zil-ul-lah/Zil-i-Illahi***.
- He also called himself ***Nasir-amir-ul-momin*** (Caliph's right hand) and ***Muluk-i-Ummat*** (King of the world).

- Introduced two Iranian court rituals – *Sijda* (prostration before the monarch) and *Paibos* (kissing the feet of monarch).
- Introduced a Persian calendar and started celebrating *Naoroj*, Persian New Year.
- Founded *Diwan-i-Arz*, the military department to control the onslaught of the Mongols.
- In 1279, Balban reconquered Bengal from Tughrills and made his son Bughra Khan the Governor of Bengal.
- Cleared the forest region of the Doab and suppressed the robbers.
- He followed the policy of '**Blood and Iron**' to deal with the Mewati Rajput brigandage.
- He suppressed the revolts of the Subedar of Awadh, Qutlugh Khan and Kishlu Khan the nawab of Sindh.
- Known as the '**Man of Blood and Iron**' as he consolidated the Sultanate.
- His greatest contribution was heightening the dignity of the sultan and strengthening the army.
- In 1285 his son Muhammad was killed in the war with, Balban could not bear the loss and died in the next year.
- Tomb of Balban is at Mehrauli.
- Posts held by Balban –
 - i. Amir-i-Shikar : Chief of Hunts
 - ii. Amir-i-Akhur : Chief of Stables



Tomb of Balban, Mehrauli, New Delhi, India.

KHALJI DYNASTY

Jalal-ud-din Khalji

Ala-ud-din Khalji

Qutub-ud-din Mubaraq Khalji

The **Khalji or Khilji Revolution**, was a military upheaval and a period of political and societal change in the [Delhi Sultanate](#). It ensued following the death of [Mamluk Sultan Balban](#) and the subsequent inability of his successors to effectively govern the [Delhi Sultanate](#). The conflict began and concluded in 1290 when [Jalaluddin Khalji](#) seized absolute power, overthrowing the [Mamluks](#) and beginning the rule of the [Khalji Dynasty](#).



- After Balban's death, his minor grandson Qaiqabad ascended the throne. Qaiqabad, neglectful of governance, later fell ill and became paralyzed, resulting in the succession of his infant son, Shamsuddin Kayumars.
- Amidst this turmoil, factions emerged within the Mamluk court:
 - i. Turkish faction led by Aitmar Surkah
 - ii. Khalji faction, led by Jalaluddin Khalji.
- A battle ensued, resulting in the defeat of the Turks.
- With the infant sultan under his control and Qaiqabad nearing death, Jalaluddin assumed the roles of regent and wazir, eventually consolidating complete power and deposing Shamsuddin in June 1290.
- The success of the revolution saw the Khalji dynasty replace the Mamluk dynasty as the ruling dynasty of the Delhi Sultanate. The



□ **Jalal-ud-Din Khalji** was the founder and first Sultan of the Khalji Dynasty that ruled the Delhi Sultanate from 1290 to 1320.

□ **Jalal-ud-Din** started his career as an officer of the Mamluk dynasty, and rose to an important position under Sultan Muizzuddin Qaiqabad.

□ He rose to the position of **Sar-i-Jandar** (chief of the royal bodyguards), and was later appointed as the governor of the frontier province of Samana.

□ At the age of 70 Jalal-ud-din Khalji founded the Khalji dynasty.

□ He ruled for 6 years.

□ He made **Kilokhari** as his capital.

□ During his 2nd year of reign, he faced revolt from Malik Chhajju (Nephew of Balban) at Kara. He was defeated and captured but Jalal-ud-din pardoned him.

□ He prevented the attacks of the Mongols under Abdullah in 1292.

□ Due to his good qualities, justice-loving temperament, and





He tried to rule without bloodshed or oppression.
Did not pursue the expansionist policy.

Married his daughter to **Ulugh Khan**, a descendant of Chengiz Khan to win the goodwill of the Mongols.

Being converted into Islam, Mongols were later allowed to settle near Delhi and were called 'New Musalmans'.

He appointed Alauddin Khalji, his nephew and son-in-law, as the Governor of Kara (Allahabad).

One of the most important events of Jalal-ud-din's reign was the invasion of Devagiri, the capital of the Yadava kingdom in deccan by Ali Gurshasp in 1296.

He was the 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**, and that since the large majority of the people in

Jalal ud din
Khilji



- Jalaluddin tried to win the goodwill of the nobility through a **policy of tolerance**.
- He avoided harsh punishments, even to those who revolted against him. He not only forgave them but at times even rewarded them to win their support.
- He was assassinated by Ali Gurshasp (Alauddin Khalji) near Kara on 19th July, 1296.
- To honor his memory, Ala-ud-din constructed a tomb for him in the **Qutb Complex in Delhi**



Ala-ud-din Khalji

- Original name Ali Gurshasp.
- On 3rd Oct. 1296 after defeating **Malika-i-Jahan** (his mother-in-law) and **Ahmad Chap** (Jala-ud-din's faithful noble), Ala-ud-din obtained the post of Sultan.
- The expansion of Delhi Sultanate under Ala-ud-din took place in **three phases** –
 - i. Gujarat, Rajasthan and Malwa, which were brought under the direct control of the Sultanate.
 - ii. Parts of Maharashtra and Deccan, which were made to accept the sovereignty.
 - iii. Extension of the boundary of Delhi Sultanate including Deccan.
- During Ala-ud-din's reign Mongols invaded India five times under different leaders –



□ According to Barani, the author of ***Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi***

Ala-ud-din felt that there were four reasons for these rebellions:

- The inefficiency of the spy system
- The general practice of the use of wine
- Social intercourse among the nobles and intermarriage between them

~~In order to prevent the reoccurrence of these rebellions, Ala-ud-din formulated certain regulations and implemented them:~~

- Families that had been enjoying free land to support themselves should pay land tax for their holdings. This curbed the excess of wealth owned by some people.
- The Sultan reorganized the spy system and took measures to make it more effective.
- The use of liquor and intoxicants was prohibited.
- The nobles were ordered not to have social gatherings or intermarriages without his permission.



- The administration of Delhi Sultanate was based on military system and feudalism.
- Ala-ud-din introduced the **price control system**.
- *Zawabit* or detailed regulations were made to control the market prices.
- To fix cost of all commodities and for the purpose he set up **four markets** at Delhi –
 - i. Central grain Market for food grains
 - ii. Market for manufactured goods (cloth)
 - iii. Market for horses, slaves and cattle
 - iv. Market for miscellaneous commodities or general merchandise
- In the military field Ala-ud-din introduced *Dagh* (branding of horse) and *Chehra* (detailed description of each soldiers) systems.



Qutub-ud-din Mubaraq Shah Khalji

- After Ala-ud-din's death, **Malik Kafur** placed Sultan's minor son **Shihab-ud-din Umar** on the throne and himself became his regent.
- But Malik Kafur was soon murdered and the throne was captured by Ala-ud-din's another son **Mubaraq Shah**.
- Mubaraq Shah liberalized Ala-ud-din's rigorous administrative policies and replaced his economic regulations.
- **Mubaraq Khan** favoured **Hasan** and **Husam-ud-din** from Gujarat.
- Mubaraq Khan gave **Hasan** the title ***Khusrau Khan*** and transferred Malik Kafur's iqta and army to him.
- He showed special favours to Khusrau Khan, **Khusrau khan** was raised to the **status of Wazir**, Malik Naib and commander-in-chief.
- In April 1320, **Mubaraq Shah was murdered by Khusrau Khan**.
- Khusrau Khan ascended the throne with the title of Nasir-ud-din Khusrau Shah.
- Ghazi Malik, the governor of Dipalpur and his son Fakhr-ud-din Jauna strongly opposed Khusrau Khan.
- Later Khusrau Khan was captured and beheaded by Ghazi Malik.