

Ancient and Medieval Class 12

7th February, 2024 at 9:00 AM

ALAMGIR AURANGZEB (1658-1707 AM) (09:19 AM):

- Aurangzeb after coming to power started promoting orthodoxy in Islam and he started to take religious divisive decisions.
- For example, the destruction of major temples, the reimposition of the Jizya tax, and the ban on festivals like Holi, Muharram, and Navroz.
- He wanted to expand his empire in the Southern part of the country but in this, his most important challenge was the ruler of Marathwada Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.
- **Pre-History of Shivaji:**
- Shivaji was the son of Konkan Ruler Shahji Bhonsale.
- He was living in Pune with his neglected mother Jijabai.
- His upbringing happened under the guidance of guru Dadaji Kondadev.
- After the death of Kondadev in 1647, Shivaji met another guru Ramdas with whom he learned the art of guerilla warfare.
- He went on to become the greatest exponent of guerilla warfare.
- In 1659, Shivaji defeated and killed Bijapur's general Afzal Khan.
- It was an alarming situation for Aurangzeb also who sent his trusted general Sahista Khan to fight with Shivaji in 1660.
- Shivaji also defeated Sahista Khan and seriously injured him.
- In this situation, Aurangzeb persuaded Rajput ruler Jaisingh I of Amber to fight with Shivaji.
- As such, in the battle of Purandhar of 1665, Jaisingh was able to defeat Shivaji because of his careful and intelligent preparation.
- As per the treaty, Shivaji submitted 23 out of 35 forces to Jaisingh and he also agreed to visit Aurangzeb's court in Agra.
- Aurangzeb performed a treachery in Agra Fort and arrested Shivaji.
- However, due to the support of many courtiers, Shivaji was able to escape from Aurangzeb's captivity.
- Shivaji took a resolve that he would not let Aurangzeb penetrate into Deccan.
- He started the campaign to win over his territory.
- In 1674, Shivaji celebrated his coronation ceremony and laid the foundation of the Maratha Empire.
- His glorious rule continued till 1680 when he met his natural death.
- After his death, Aurangzeb took a sigh of relief and reinitiated his campaign of Deccan.
- In 1686, he annexed Bijapur, and in 1687 Golconda.
- In 1689, Aurangzeb captured Shivaji's eldest son Sambha ji, his wife, and his son Sahu.
- Sambha Ji was hacked to death and Sahu was kept in Mughal captivity till 1707.
- Meanwhile, the Maratha area was ruled by the younger son of Shivaji Raja Ram.
- After the death of Raja Ram, his widow Tarabai ruled between 1700-1707.

REGIONAL POWERS DURING DELHI SULTANATE (10:04 AM):

- **Bahmani Kingdom:**
- It was founded by one of the nobles of Mohd Bin Tughlaq's court Allauddin Shah Bahman.
- In 1347, the capital of the Bahmani Kingdom was at Gulbarga.
- The most important phase of the Bahmani kingdom was under its vizier **Mehmud Gawan (1463-81)**.
- He was an expert in Islamic theology and mathematics, and he was also a reputed poet and prose writer.
- He became a minister during the tenure of Bahmani ruler **Mehmud Shah III**.
- He was an intelligent strategy maker which led to the expansion of the Bahmani kingdom.
- In fact, during his prime ministership, there was good growth in secular education.
- By 1480, the nobles of the Deccani group started to conspire against the Governor which led to his killing on the order of his rulers.
- After the death of Gawan, a decline of the Bahmani kingdom started.
- **By 1518, it was divided into 5 houses:**
- i) Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.
- ii) Bidar
- iii) Berar.
- iv) Golconda.
- v) Bijapur.
- **Vijayanagar Kingdom (10:19 AM):**
- Vijayanagar kingdom was founded by two brothers Harihar and Bukka Raya with the help of their guru Madhav Devranya in 1336.
- Between 1336 and 1640, **four dynasties** ruled in the Vijayanagar kingdom:
- i) Sangama Dynasty.
- ii) Suluva Dynasty.
- iii) Tuluva Dynasty.
- iv) Aravidu Dynasty.
- In this time period, Vijayanagar was visited by **many foreign travelers**:
- i) Abdul Razzak - Samarkand.
- ii) Fernao Nuniz - Portuguese.
- iii) Nicolo Di Conti - Italian.
- iv) Duarte Borbosa - Portuguese.
- v) Domingo Paes - Portuguese.
- vi) Nikitin - Russian.
- Nikitin visited the Bahmani kingdom.
- The Tuluva Dynasty was the most important dynasty of Vijayanagar.
- It reached its climax during the rule of Krishna Deva Raya.

- **Krishna Deva Raya (1509-1529):**
- He was the most enlightened ruler of Vijayanagar history.
- Babur mentioned in his biography "**Tuzk-i-Babari**" that Krishna Deva Raya was the most powerful and respected ruler of India.
- Despite defeating the Bijapur army in Raichur, Krishna Deva Raya didn't annex the Bijapur Kingdom rather he appointed a rightful person from the Bijapur dynasty to the throne of Bijapur.
- At this time, he was given the title of "**Yavan Samrat Sthapanacharya**".
- He was a highly progressive ruler and the composition of his army was highly heterogeneous which included a good number of officers from the Muslim community.
- During his tenure, women were accorded very high respect in the society.
- They were also appointed to high official positions.
- Women were astrologers, wrestlers, and soothsayers in the Vijayanagar kingdom.
- His period is also referred to as the "**Golden Age**" of Telugu literature.
- Krishna Deva Raya himself was a scholar of Sanskrit, Kannada, and Telugu language.
- He was a proleptic writer of Telugu and he wrote a famous Telugu Poetry "Amuktamalyada".
- He also maintained 8 lumineries of Telugu in his court which were popularly known as "**Ashtadiggaj**".
- The most important among them was Peddana who is regarded as the father figure of Telugu literature.
- He composed "**Manucharitam**" and also translated Mahabharat and Ramayan in Telugu.
- The other important literary figures were Tenali Raman, Thimmana, and Surana, etc.
- He was a devout follower of Hinduism and **constructed and renovated many temples**.
- For example, he created the Hazara Ram Swami temple at Hampi.
- He renovated the Veerbhadra temple of Lepakshi.
- He also renovated Tirumala Tirupati Devashtanam.

THE SYLLABUS OF ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL HISTORY IS COMPLETED.