

Ancient and Medieval Class 08

27th January, 2024 at 1:00 PM

DYNASTIES EMERGED IN SOUTHERN INDIA (01:10 PM):

- **Pallava and Chalukya:**
- In the 6th century AD two new dynasties emerged in Southern India at the place of early Cholas.
- Pallavas were based in Kanchipuram and Chalukyas in Badami, Karnataka.
- From the very beginning, both dynasties started to fight with each other to control the very fertile Tungabhadra Doab.
- The initial fight happened between Pallava ruler Mahendravarman and Chalukya ruler Pulakeshin II.
- Mahendravarman was thoroughly defeated and it led to his death.
- Pulakeshin gave the area of Vengi or Amravati to his brother Vishnuvardhan.
- In the later times, the Eastern branch of Chalukyas was established at Vengi.
- By the end of the 8th century, another branch of Chalukyas emerged at Kalyani.
- After the death of Mahendravarman, his son Narsimhavarman attacked Chalukya's capital Badami.
- He defeated Pulakeshin II and captured his capital, Badami.
- He took the title of **Vatapikondi** (conqueror of Badami).
- Both dynasties are regarded as initiators of a new style of temple art in Southern India.
- Pallava patronage led to the development of the Dravida style of temple and Chalukyas patronage led to the development of the Vessara style.
- The Pallava dynasty came to a complete end in 890 when one of their feudatories usurped the power.

NORTH (01:27 PM):

- After the decline of the Pushyabhuti dynasty, their erstwhile-ruled area paved the way for the rise of **three new dynasties** that are:
 - i) Pala of East.
 - ii) Pratihara-Gurjara of West.
 - iii) Rashtrakut of Central India and Deccan.
- **Pala Dynasty of East:**
- It was founded by Gopal in around 750 AD.
- Dharampala was the most important ruler of this dynasty.
- From his tenure onwards, Pala rulers started to promote Buddhism.
- He granted 200 villages to Nalanda University for its maintenance and upkeep.
- He created **three universities** of Buddhist learning that are:
 - i) Vikramshila.
 - ii) Somarupa.
 - iii) Oddantpuri.
- During the tenure of the Pala rulers, the birth of **Vajrayana Buddhism** happened in the area of Nalanda.
- It is regarded as the Tantrik version of Buddhism.
- From Nalanda, Vajrayana Buddhism made its traverse to Tibet where it matured and developed into **Kalachakrayana Buddhism**.
- Because of the initiative of the Pala rulers, Buddhism spread to many other parts of Asia.
- **Pratihara-Gurjara of West:**
- Originally, this dynasty was founded by Nagabhatta around 710-12 AD.
- Mihirabhoja is regarded as the most powerful ruler of this dynasty.

IMPERIAL CHOLA DYNASTY (02:13 PM):

- In 890, Vijayalaya Chola captured the power from Pallavas and reestablished Cholas with their capital at Tanjore.
- Aditya I was the initially important ruler who expanded the kingdom through a matrimonial alliance with Eastern Chalukyas.
- The next ruler Parantaka I further defeated Rashtrakutas and expanded the kingdom.
- The Raja Raja Chola and his son Rajendra Chola are regarded as the most powerful Chola rulers.
- Raja Raja I defeated the Pandyas and Cheras and captured some of their territories.
- He also captured the northeastern part of Sri Lanka.
- In 1011 AD, he laid the foundation of the **Brihadeshwara temple** at Tanjore which is regarded as one of the architectural wonders of India.
- It is also believed to be the climax of the Dravida style of temple.
- The next ruler Rajendra I completely defeated Chera and Pandyas and completely annexed Sri Lanka.
- Perhaps he was the first ruler from Southern India who marched to the Gangetic delta and defeated Pala ruler Mahipala but he didn't annex the Pala area and returned back.
- To celebrate his victory, he took the title of **Gangaikondi** and created a new city on the banks of the Kaveri River, Gangaikondcholapuram to celebrate this victory.
- With the same name, he also created a temple.
- Rajendra-I was perhaps the first Indian ruler who crossed the Bay of Bengal and attacked the cities of Shrivijaya of the Malaya Peninsula.
- This invasion led to increased cultural exchange between India and the Malaya Peninsula.

- **Important Aspects of Chola Rule:**

- Perhaps they were the first rulers of India who functioned as banking financial institutions.
- Moreover, they are also known for their decentralized rule.
- **They divided their kingdom into many sub-divisions which are as follows:**
- Chola Mandalam (Tondaimandalam).
- Mandalam - Province.
- Valanadu - Districts.
- Nadu - Blocks.
- Kottam - Village.
- Ur - Smallest administrative division.
- He patronized the construction of temples in many parts of Tamil land.
- Temples were not only the place of worship but also the center of education and economic activity.
- They are also one of the foremost rulers of India who understood the importance of rainwater harvesting and wrote many inscriptions on rainwater harvesting.

- **Note:**

- In the Ancient times, **Shreni's** were the banking and financial institutions.
- They also formulated the rules of trade and controlled it.
- Shreni's were headed by either Jyesthaka or Shresthaka.
- In the 6th century BC, the first coin of India was released in the Mahajanapada age which was a **Punch-Marked** silver coin.

ISLAMIC INVASIONS (03:11 PM):

- **a) Invasion of Muhammad Bin Kasim:**

- In 712 AD, a ship of Muhammad Bin Kasim of Saudi Arabia was looted closer to the Deval port of Sindh.
- To take revenge, Kasim attacked Sindh which led to a successive fight with the ruler of Sindh Dahir.
- Raja Dahir was killed and it led to the establishment of rule of the Ummayid dynasty in Sindh.
- But in turn of events, Muhammad Bin Kasim was killed by the caliphate and his generals and commanders were expelled from India by Pratihara-Gurjaras.

- **b) Invasion of Mahmud of Ghazni (985-1025):**
- Mahmud of Ghazni was the ruler of the Samanid area in West Asia.
- In the 10th century AD, a volatile situation arose in West Asia that is it was constantly attacked by the Central Asian who were the followers of nature.
- There were **two tasks** before Mahmud of Ghazni: to protect the Samanid area and to propagate Islam.
- He was able to convince Central Asians to convert to Islam.
- In this endeavor, the book of Firdausi "**Shahnama**" played a vital role.
- After that, Ghazni decided to invade India to improve his wealth and to establish himself as the most powerful ruler.
- He invaded India **17** times, performed the worst types of crimes, killed people, and looted cities, and temples.
- His last attack was on the temple of Somnath in 1025 AD.
- He destroyed and demolished the Somnath temple.

- **c) Invasion of Mohd Ghuri:**

- In the 12th century AD, the Samanid area was ruled by Seljuks.
- Two branches of Seljuks developed over the period in West Asia that is Khwarizmi branch and Ghurid branch.
- Both the branches wanted to control Syria which led to a fight.
- In this fight, the Ghurids were defeated.
- As such Ghurid ruler Mohd Bin Ghuri or Mohd Ghuri decided to divert his attention towards the Indian subcontinent.
- Initially, he captured Multan and Uch by 1170.
- He also fought with Raja Bhimdev Solanki but was defeated.
- He decided to divert his attention towards Tabar-i-Hind or modern Bhatinda.
- Meanwhile, the North and Central part of India was ruled by many **Rajput dynasties** like:
 - Tomars of Delhi.
 - Chauhans of Ajmer.
 - Chalukya Solanki of Gujarat.
 - Parmar of Malwa.
 - Pratihara-Gurjara of West.
 - Chandela of Bundelkhand.
 - Gahdaulah of Kannauj.
- On the equation of Tabar-i-Hind, Mohd Ghuri fought with Ajmer ruler Prithwi Raj Chauhan in the first battle of Tarain 1191.
- Ghuri was defeated after which he started to hatch a conspiracy against Prithwi Raj Chauhan with the Gahdaulah ruler of Kannauj, Jaichand.
- Earlier, Jaichand's daughter Sanyogita eloped with Prithwi Raj Chauhan who was not liked by Jaichand.
- As such during the second battle of Tarain 1192, Jaichand supported Mohd Ghuri and it led to the defeat of Prithwi Raj Chauhan.
- In 1194, a trusted slave of Mohd Ghuri Qutub-uddin-Aibak defeated and killed Jaichand in the battle of Chandavar which led to the beginning of informal Turkish rule in India.
- In 1206, Mohd Ghuri was killed by Khokhars in a salt range.
- After the death of Ghuri, Aibak declared the formation of the Delhi Sultanate in 1206.

THE TOPIC FOR THE NEXT CLASS - DELHI SULTANATE.