

NCERT Notes: Bahmani Kingdom [Medieval History Of India Notes For UPSC]

In this article, find NCERT notes on the Bahmani Kingdom. The Bahmani Sultanate is an important topic for the [Civil Services Examination](#) 2019 preparation.

To know more about [UPSC 2020](#), refer to the linked article.

The Bahmani Kingdom (1347-1526 A.D.)

The Bahmani Kingdom was one of the most powerful Muslim kingdoms in India.

Political History

- Hasan Gangu Bahmani was the founder of the Bahmani Kingdom.
- He was a Turkish officer of Devagiri.
- in 1347 A.D. he established the independent Bahmani kingdom.
- His kingdom stretched from the Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal, included the whole of Deccan up to the river Krishna with its capital at Gulbarga.

Muhammad Shah-I (1358-1377.A.D.)

- He was the next ruler of the Bahmani Kingdom.
- He was an able general and administrator.
- He defeated Kapaya Nayaks of Warangal and the Vijayanagar ruler Bukka-I.

Muhammad Shah-II (1378-1397.A.D.)

- In 1378 A.D. **Muhammad Shah-II** ascended the throne.
- He was a peace lover and developed friendly relations with his neighbours.
- He built many mosques, madrasas (a place of learning) and hospitals.

Feroz Shah Bahmani (1397-1422 A.D.)

- He was a great general
- He defeated the Vijayanagar ruler Deva Raya I.

Ahmad Shah (1422-1435 A.D.)

- Ahmad Shah succeeded Feroz Shah Bahmani
- He was an unkind and heartless ruler.
- He conquered the kingdom of Warangal.

- He changed his capital from Gulbarga to Bidar.
- He died in 1435A.D.

Muhammad Shah-III (1463-1482 A.D.)

- In 1463A.D. **Muhammad Shah III** became the Sultan at the age of nine
- Muhammad Gawan became the regent of the infant ruler.
- Under Muhammad Gawan's able leadership the Bahmani kingdom became very powerful.
- Muhammad Gawan defeated the rulers of Konkan, Orissa, Sangameshwar, and Vijayanagar.

Muhammad Gawan

- He was a very wise scholar and an able administrator.
- He improved the administration, systematized finances, encouraged public education, reformed the revenue system, disciplined the army and eliminated corruption.
- In 1481 Muhammad Gawan persecuted by the Deccan Muslims who were jealous of him and sentenced to death by Muhammad Shah.

The Five Muslim Dynasties

- Muhammad Shah-III died in 1482
- His successors were weak and the Bahmani Kingdom disintegrated into five kingdoms namely:
 1. Bijapur
 2. Ahmednagar
 3. Bera
 4. Golconda
 5. Bidar

Administration

- The Sultans followed a Feudal type of administration.
- Tarafs – The kingdom was divided into many provinces called Tarafs
- Tarafdar or Amir – Governor who controlled the Taraf.

Golgumbaz

- Golgumbaz in Bijapur is called the whispering gallery because when one whispers, the lingering echo of the whisper is heard in the opposite corner.

- This is so because when one whispers in one corner, a lingering echo is heard in the opposite corner.

Contribution to Education

- The Bahmani Sultans gave great attention to education.
- They encouraged Arabic and Persian learning.
- Urdu also flourished during this period

Art and Architecture

Numerous mosques, madarasas and libraries were built.

- The Juma Masjid at Gulbarga The Golconda Fort
- The Golgumbaz at Bijapur
- The Madrasas of Muhammad Gawan

Decline of Bahmani Kingdom

- There was a constant war between the Bahmani and Vijayanagar rulers.
- Inefficient and weak successors after Muhammad Shah III.
- The rivalry between the Bahmani rulers and foreign nobles.