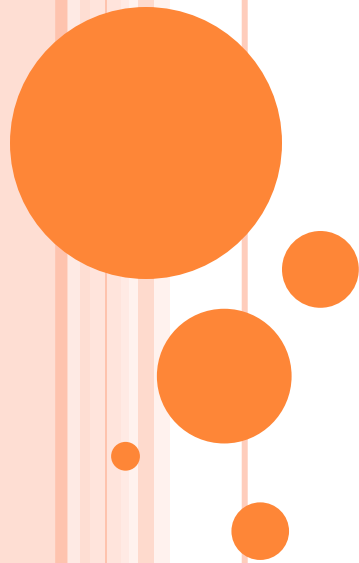


HISTORY OF BENGAL, 1204-1757: AN OVERVIEW



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MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

Why 1204 AD and 1757 AD?

- 1204 AD: Bakhtiar Khalji defeated Laksmansena. So what?
- 1757 AD: Nawab Sirajuddowla was defeated by the English. So what?



- Major sources of History:
- **Tabaqat-i-Nasiri** a medieval text by Minhaj-i-Siraj. It is an important source book for the reconstruction of the history of foundation of Muslim rule in Bengal. The history of the first fifty years of Muslim rule in Bengal is found only in this text.
- **Riyaz-us-Salatin** the first complete history of the Muslim rule in Bengal. Written in Persian language by Ghulam Husain Salim Zaidpuri, it covers the whole Muslim rule in Bengal from BAKHTIYAR's conquest of Nadia in 1204-05 AD to the battle of PALASHI in 1757, though there are lacunae in various places.



- TARIKH-I-FIRUZSHAHIS of Ziauddin Barani
- Abul Fazl's AIN-I-AKBARI and AKBARNAMAH
- Badauni's MUNTAKHAB-UT-TAWARIKH
- Nizamuddin Bakhshi's TABAQAT-I-AKBARI



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

Three phases

- Delhi Sultanate (1204-1342)
- Independent Sultanate (1342-1538)
- Mughal rule (1538-1757)

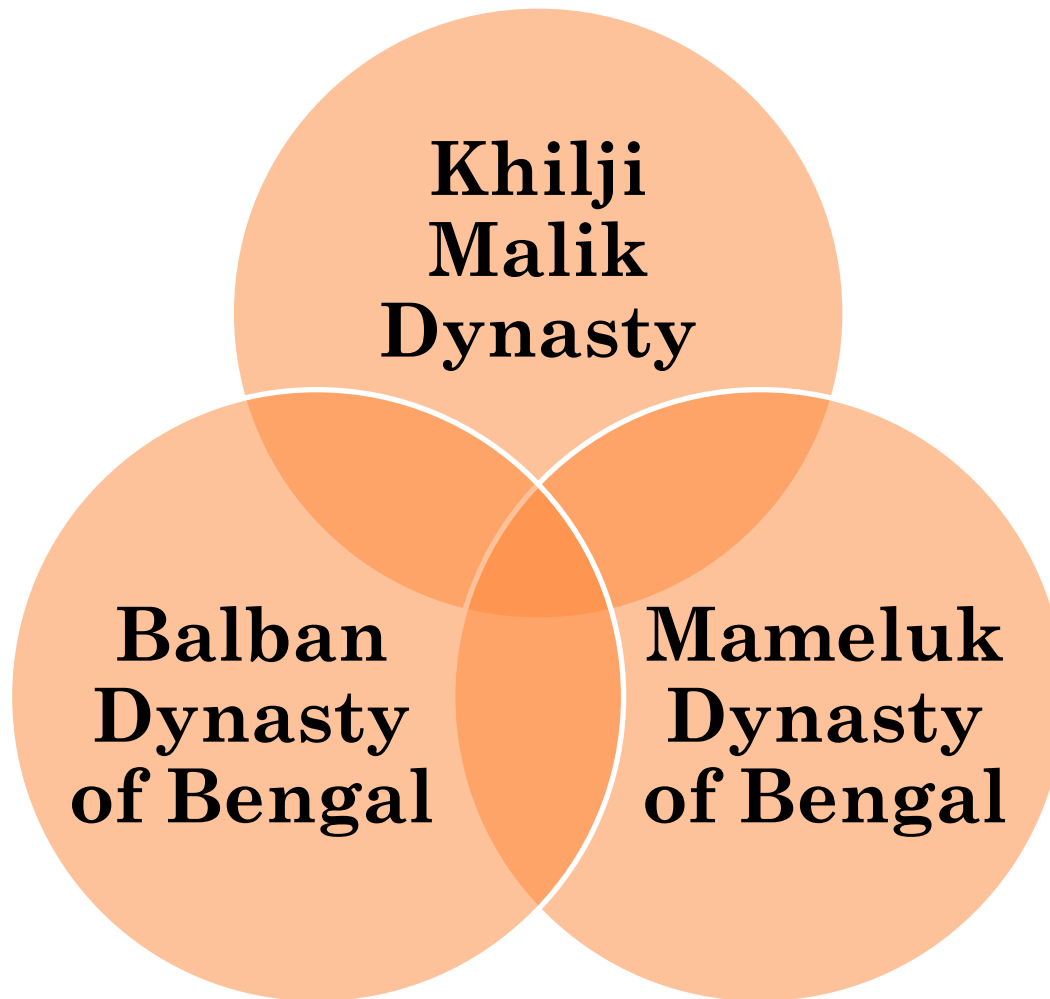


MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

- Qutub Ud-Dīn Aibak (born 1150—died 1210), a founder of Muslim rule in India.
- Delhi Sultanate (1204-1342)



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

- **Ikhtiyar Uddin Muhammed Bin Bakhtiyar :** conquest of Nadia.
- Who was Bakhtiyar?
- When was he invaded Bengal? 1203, 1204, or 1205?
- Number of Soldiers accompanied him? 17 or 18 or more?
- A disastrous campaign to Tibet in 1206 and its consequence



SILVER COIN OF 'ALI MARDAN (CA. 1208–13), COMMEMORATING THE
CONQUEST OF BENGAL IN A.H. RAMAZAN 600 (A.D. MAY 1204).
OBVERSE ONLY.



Gold coin of
Muhammad
Bakhtiar, struck
in A.H. 601 (A.D.
1204–5) in Bengal
in the name of
Sultan
Muhammad
Ghuri. Obverse
and reverse.



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

From rebel to rebel: Challenges for the successors

- **Muhammed Shiran Khilji** (1206-1208):
dethroned, fled and died
- **Hussamuddin Iwaj Khilji** (1208-1210):
dethroned
- **Ali Mardan Khilji** (1210-1212): dethroned and
murdered
- **Ghiyasuddin Iwaj Khilji** (1212-1227): killed
and his army routed.....Bengal was declared an
province of the Delhi Sultanate, ushering in the
Mamluk or Slave dynasty of Delhi.



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

Mameluk Dynasty of Bengal: Not so easy to rule in Bengal

- **Nasiruddin Mahmud: (1227-1229)**
- **Malik Balkha Khilji or Daulat Shah Bin Maudud: (1229-1232)**
- **Allauddin Jani: (1232-1233)**
- **Saifuddin Aibak : (1233-1236)**
- **Awar Khan Aibak : (1236)**
- **Tughral Tughan Khan : (1236-1246)**
- **Tughlaq Tamar Khan: (1246-1247)**
- **Jalaluddin Masud Jani : (1247-1251)**



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

- Malik Ikhtiyaruddin Iuzbak: (1251-1257)
- **Ijjauddin Balban-e-Iuzbaki:** (1257-1259)
- **Tatar Khan:** (1259-1268)
- **Sher Khan:** (1268-1272)
- **Mughisuddin Tughral :** (1272 -1281)



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

Balban Dynasty

- **Mahmud Shah also known as Naseeruddin Bughra Khan : (1281-1291)**
- **Rukunuddin Kaikos : (1291-1300)**
- **Shamsuddin Firoz : (1300-1322)**
- **Ghiyasuddin Bahadur Shah I: (1322-1324-1328)**



- **Fakhruddin Mubarak Shah** (1338-1349): He was the founder of the earliest independent Muslim sultanat in Bengal with his headquarters at the historic city of Sonargaon.
- He was the *silahdar* (superintendent of armoury) in the service of Bahram Khan, Tughlaq governor (*wali*) of Sonargaon.
- In his coins, Fakhruddin is styled as *Al-Sultan al-Azam Fakhr al-duniya wal-din AbuŌl Muzaffar Mubarak-shah al-sultan*. (The great Sultan, Pride of the world and of the religion, Father of the conqueror, Mubarak Shah the sultan).





Fakhruddin Mubarak Shah 734-750 AH, 1333-1349 AD



- Fakhruddin's domination over the greater districts of Comilla, Noakhali, Sylhet and Chittagong naturally tightened his grip on the king of Tripura, and even the king of Arakan felt himself insecure for the south-eastward march of Fakhruddin, and is said to have courted alliance with the sultan of Sonargaon.
- The Moroccan traveller Ibn Battuta visited Bengal (1346) during the reign of Fakhruddin Mubarak Shah. He has left a valuable account of his sojourn in the country of Bangalah, its natural view, different aspects on the life of the people and prosperity of the country.



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

For 200 years Bengal was independent

- Iliyas Shahi dynasty (1342-1487) is first independent dynasty.
- Alauddin Husain Shah founded Husain Shahi dynasty (1494-1538)



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

❑ **Iliyas Shahi dynasty (1342-1487)**

- Shamsuddin Iliyas Shah established power in Lakhnauti.
- United Bengal (earlier divided in three parts)
- Shah-I-Bangalah
- Fakhruddin Mubarak Shah established power in Sonargoan
- Ibn Batuta visited Bengal



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

- **Shamsuddin Ilyas Shah** (1342–1358): from servant of Kader Khan (the ex governor of Lakhnauti) to independent ruler.
- Sultan Firuz Shah Tughlaq Vs. Ilyas Shah
- **Sikandar Shah** (1358–1390): son and successor of Ilyas Shah/ great Adina Mosque/ capable ruler/ was killed in a battle with his son
- **Ghiyasuddin Azam Shah** (1390-1411): Foreign relations with China and Iran
- Other rulers and glory



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

- **Raja Ganesha : 1415-1418**
- **Jalaluddin Muhammad Shah: (1415-1433)**
- **Msuddin Ahmad Shah: (1433-1436)**

Ilyas Shah Dynasty Restored

- **Nasiruddin Mahmud Shah (1435 – 1459)**
- **Rukunuddin Barbak Shah: (1459-1474)**
- **Shamsuddin Yousuf Shah: (1474-1481)**
- **Sikander Shah II : (1481)**
- **Jalaluddin Fateh Shah : (1481-1487)**



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

❑ **Husain Shahi dynasty (1494-1538)**

- Alauddin was elected by nobles
- Territorial expansion (Tripura, CTG, Orissa etc)
- Religious tolerance. Sri Chaitanna advocated Vaisnava religion.
- Portuguese came in the 16th century.
- Mughals started coming to borders of Bengal.



MEDIEVAL BENGAL, 1204-1757AD

- **Nasiruddin Nusrat Shah (1519- 1532)**
- **Alauddin Firuz Shah (1533)**
- **Ghiyasuddin Mahmud Shah (1533-38)**



- **Afghan Suri dynasty**
- **Karrani Dynasty**
- **Bengal under Mughal rule**



MEDIEVAL BENGAL (1204-1757)

○ Mughal Period (1576-1757)

- Islam Khan Chisti defeated Bara Bhuiyans and transferred capital from Rajmahal to Dhaka.
- Bara Katra built by Shah Shuja, son of Shahjahan.
- Shaista Khan captured CTG and drove Magh pirates
- Lalbagh fort
- Eight maund rice in one Taka!!



THANK YOU

THANK YOU

