

HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL INDIA

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MEDIEVAL INDIA

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INTRODUCTION

- Medieval India is the phase of the Indian subcontinent between the ancient period and the modern period.
- This phase can be related to the time period between 1206 – 1857.

MEDIEVAL INDIA HISTORY

(HINDI)

DELHI SULTANATE

THE SLAVE DYNASTY (1206 - 1290)

THE KHILJI DYNASTY (1290 - 1320)

THE TUGHLAQ DYNASTY (1320 - 1414)

THE SAYYID DYNASTY (1414 - 1421)

THE LODHII DYNASTY (1451 - 1526)

MUGHAL DYNASTY

BABUR (1526 - 30)

HUMAYUN (1530 - 56)

AKBAR (1556 - 1605)

JAHANGIR (1605 - 27)

SHAHJAHAN (1627 - 57)

AURANGZEB (1657 - 1707)

ADVENT EUROPEANS

ADVENT OF PORTUGUESE

ARRIVAL OF DUTCH

ADVENT OF ENGLISH

ARRIVAL OF FRENCH

SLAVE DYNASTY

- Established by Qutb ud-Din Aibak.
- Dynasty lasted from 1206 to 1290.
- Qutbuddin Aibak, Shamsuddin Iltutmish, Raziya and Ghiyasuddin Balban.
- Dynasty ended when Jalal ud din Firuz Khilji overthrew the last Mamluk ruler Muiz ud din Qaiqabad in 1290.

KHILJI DYNASTY

- The Khilji dynasty ruled from 1290 to 1320 CE.
- The founder of the Khilji dynasty was Jalaluddin Khilji (1290-1296).
- Khalji Dynasty was succeeded by the Tughlaq Dynasty.

TUGHLAQ DYNASTY

- Tughlaq dynasty lasted from 1320 to 1414.
- The founder of the Tughlaq Dynasty, Ghiyasuddin Tuglaq, also known as Ghazi Malik.
- Some prominent rulers were Muhammed Bin Tuglaq, Feroz Shah Tughlaq.
- Nasir-ud-Din Nasiruddin Mohammad Shah, another name for Mahmud Shah Tughluq, was the final sultan of the Tughlaq dynasty to govern the Islamic Delhi Sultanate.

SAYYID DYNASTY

- As the fourth family of the Delhi Sultanate, the Sayyid dynasty succeeded the Tughlaq dynasty.
- They ruled the nation for 37 years, from 1414 to 1451.
- Khizir Khan, the governor of Multan and Timur's Indian representative, established them.
- The fourth and final the ruler of the Sayyid Dynasty was Alau-din-Alam Shah.

LODHI DYNASTY

- Lodi dynasty, (1451–1526), last ruling family of the Delhi sultanate of India.
- The dynasty was of Afghan origin.
- The first Lodi ruler was Bahlul Lodi.
- Governor of the Punjab, Dawlat Khan Lodi, invited the Mughal ruler of Kabul, Babur, to invade India.
- Ibrahim was killed at the first battle of Panipat (April 21, 1526), whereupon the loose aristocratic confederacy of the Lodis dissolved.

MUGHAL PERIOD

- Mughal Period lasted from 1526–1761.
- The Mughal Empire was founded by Babur. He was related to Timur on his father's side and to Chengiz Khan (Mongol ruler) through his mother.
- Humayun, Akbar, Jehangir, Shah Jahan, Aurangzeb and Bahadur were other prominent rulers.
- The last Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah was made premier during the 1857 Revolt. He died in 1862 in Rangoon (Myanmar)

ADVENT OF EUROPEANS

- Vasco da Gama's discovery of a new maritime route across the Cape of Good Hope in 1498 opened gates for European invasion in India which lasted from 1600 to 1947.
- Portuguese, English, Dutch and French came and established trading units in India.
- Britain emerged as the most powerful European who arrived in India, successfully enslaving India for 200 years.

SOCIETY IN MEDIEVAL INDIA



SOCIETY IN MEDIEVAL INDIA

During the medieval period, there was stratification of rural society. Three social strata were apparent in this period-

UPPER CLASS- Kings and Lords.

MIDDLE CLASS- Mansabdars

TRADERS AND LOWER CLASS- Farmers, craftsmen and slaves.

The most significant development in India in the medieval period were the rise of Islam and downfall of Buddhism.

LIFE OF PEOPLE IN MEDIEVAL PERIOD

- Indian society was divided into different groups- Aristocrats, priests, town people and peasants.
- The highest class being the ruling elite, followed by merchants, traders, farmers and artisans.
- Life in middle ages was characterized by caste and warfare.
- Common people generally faced problems like Famine, starvation, over-taxation, diseases like plague.

KING DURING THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD

- Administration of justice was the main function of King. Monarch was the head of judicial organization.
- According to Islamic jurisprudence, the ruler was the highest court of justice.
- To maintain and enforce the criminal code was one of the important functions of the King.
- Being the head of state, he was he was the supreme authority to administer justice in his kingdom.
- King had divine powers and was supported by nobles.
- Humayun and Akbar believed that- “Royalty is a light emanating from God, a ray from the sun”.
- King was the chief legislator because his word was law.

CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

- The Medieval Period witnessed a great synthesis of traditions in religion and culture. In the religious realm, examples include the **Bhakti Movement and Sufism**.
- Bhakti saints such as **Ramananda, Kabir, Ravidas, Mira Bai, Guru Nanak, Tukaram, and Chaitanya Mahaprabhu** had a profound influence on common people's minds, and this influence continues to this day.
- Mughal rule: Despite being an Islamic rule, it was a secular state to the extent that Akbar even introduced a new institution, **ibadat khana**, where different religions could be represented. In his administration, he made no distinction between Hindu or Muslim and recruited uniformly.

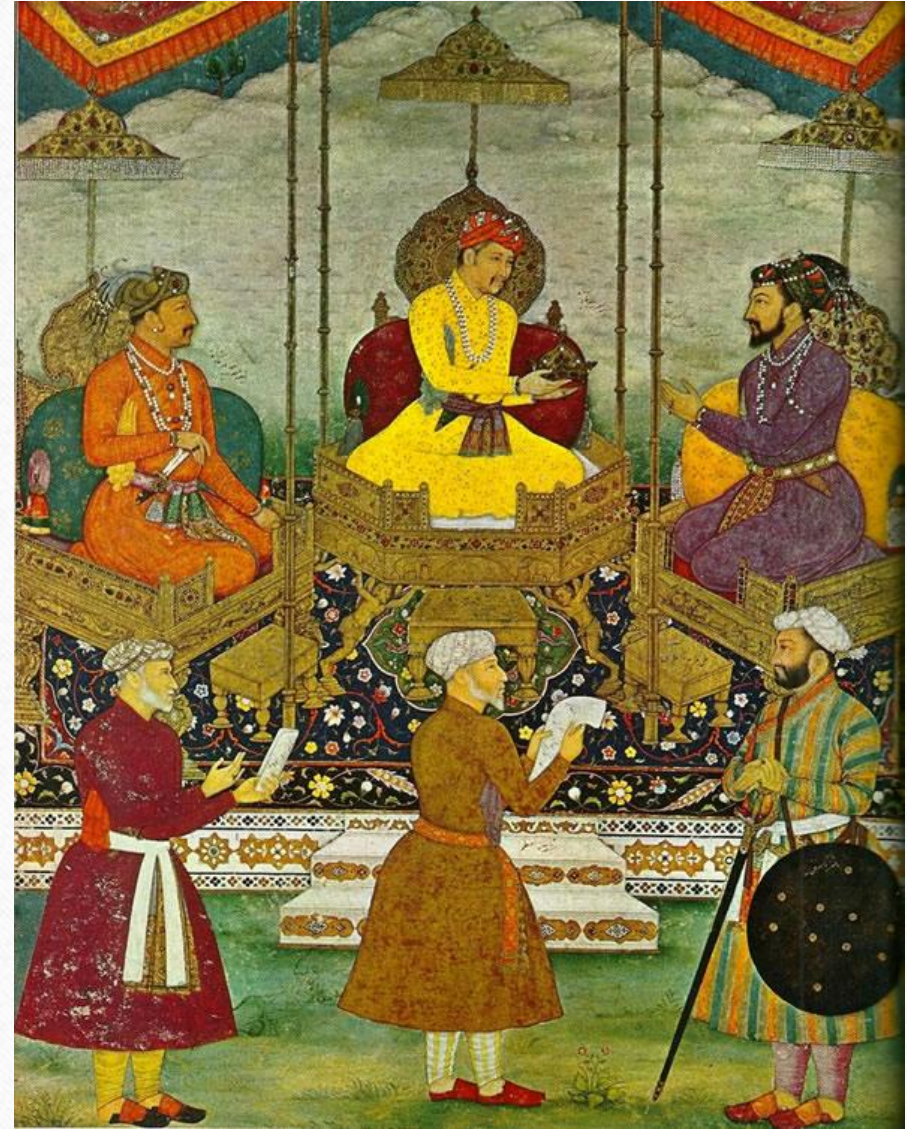
WOMEN IN MEDIEVAL INDIA



STATUS OF WOMEN IN MEDIEVAL INDIA

- Child marriage and sati prevailed in many parts of India. Widow remarriage was not permitted. Women were deprived of education as they married at a very young age. Women played a significant role in the agricultural and non -agricultural sectors such as weaving, pottery and embroidery.
- In the early Medieval period the women held significant land powers. The technique of spinning was considered as women's craft at that time. It was performed mainly using the tools like spindles and distaff.
- The only woman who had ever occupied the throne of Delhi was Razia Sultan. Gulbadan Begum was a woman of exceptional poetic talent who wrote Humayun-namah.
- Medieval India was not women's age it is supposed to be the 'dark age' for them. When foreign conquerors like Muslims invaded India they brought with them their own culture. For them women was the sole property of her father, brother or husband and she does not have any will of her.

CONCEPT OF LAW



CONCEPT OF LAW AND JUDICIAL SYSTEM

- SULTANS OF DELHI OBSERVED FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES
- Faithfulness, observance and strict adherence to shariah
- They considered dispensation and administration of justice as religious , sacred and holy duty

for instance Sultan Muhammad Tuglaq addressed to one of judge to formulate new laws as per instruction of sultans but not violate basic and core requirement of shariah.

PRACTICE OF HANGING CHAIN OF JUSTICE

- STRICT Implementation and RESPECT OF LAW

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION UNDER SULTANS OF DELHI

- KING'S COURT – Superior court at the centre. Sultan was presiding officer of this court.
- Chief Justice Court known as QAZI UL QUZAT
- DIWAN-E-MUZALIM- highest court of criminal appeal
- DIWAN-E-RISALAT- highest court of appeal in respect of civil cases
- SADAR-E-JAHAN- deals with ECCLESIASTICAL cases
- DIWAN-E-SYASAT- temporary court for sanctioning criminal prosecution

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION



Certain other posts for maintaining law and order

- GOVERNOR(NAZIM)- primary function was to maintain law and order
- CHIEF MINISTERS OF SULTANS were given special judicial powers to try cases.
- SULTAN DID NOT INTERFERE in JUDICIAL WINGS

LEGAL AND JUDICIAL SYSTEM UNDER MUGHAL RULE

- CIVIL ADMINISTRATION –headed by KING assisted by his ministers.

- Kingdom

divided into provinces (subahs)

PROVINCES composed of DISTRICTS (sarkars)

DISTRICTS divided into PARGANAHS (GROUP of village)

CRIMINAL ADMINISTRATION

- MUGHALS introduced reforms to improve judicial machinery.
- For the first time in country CHIEF JUDGE was appointed by QUTUB-UD-DIN AIBAK
- BALBAN introduced system of ESPIONAGE to find the truth about criminals
- SIKANDAR LODHI initiated several reforms in criminal justice

JUDICIAL REFORMS BY SHER SHAH SURI

- IT formed a bridge between SULTANATE and MUGHAL period.
- Head of Village Councils were recognised
- In case of robberies, they were made to pay for loss sustained by victim.
- POLICE REGULATIONS were drawn up for first time.

JUDICIAL REFORMS BY AKBAR

- Creation of COMMON CITIZENSHIP and UNANIMOUS SYSTEM of justice for all.
- he prohibited slavery
- REPEALED DEATH PENALTY CLAUSE for criticizing ISLAM
- Prohibited forcible practice of SATI

REFORMS BY JAHANGIR

- ABOLISHED cruel and barbarous punishment.
- DECENTRALISATION OF POWRES OF COURT.

REFORMS BY OTHER RULERS

- SHAHJAHAN established REGULAR SYSTEM OF APPEAL
- AURANGZEB entrusted preparation of comprehensive DIGEST OF MUSLIM CRIMINAL LAW entitled as FATWA-I-ALAMGIRI.

CONTEMPORARY HINDU KINGDOMS

- VIJAYNAGAR EMPIRE- Most famous one
- The example of vijaynagar and their system of ADJUDICATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE indicates the functioning of full-fledged judicial system

EVOLUTION OF LEGAL SYSTEM FROM MEDIEVAL PERIOD TO PRESENT DAY

Legal system which we observe today has significantly developed during medieval India. The rulers during this period introduced some important concepts which are present even in the present day legal system. Which are as follows

- During muslim period much emphasis was given to administration of criminal justice.
- Balban introduced system of espionage.
- Sher shah suri was of opinion of that stability of government was dependent on the justice.

CONCLUSION

- In this period only police regulations were drawn for the first time.
- Judicial officers below the rank of Chief Provincial Qazi were transferred after every two or three years.
- Akbar created common citizenship and a unanimous system of justice for all.
- Shahjahan established the regular system of appeal.
- Shariat law that evolved in medieval period is still prevalent in society.
- The Regulating Act of 1773 provided for establishment of supreme court which came into existence in 1774 and for performance of judicial functions a separate institution was established to imbibe concept of separation of power.

THANK YOU
