

Paper II

HIS-UG-202: HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL INDIA

Objective: Catering to the need of both Pass and Honours students, this course offers an overview of the main trends and developments in India during Medieval Period (1206-1757). The emphasis of this history will be on the socio-economic and cultural patterns in understanding the polity and society as they took shape in the periods under study.

Course Content:

A. a Survey of sources of Medieval Indian History (literary works and archaeological of Delhi Sultanate and Mughal Period). Arab Invasion of Sind-Its Nature and Impact. Invasion by Ghani and Ghori-Nature and Impact.

B. The Delhi Sultanate (stages and political structure): Iqta system; territorial and military organizations; symbols and rituals of sovereignty; the sultans' relations with autonomous chieftains. Rural society and the revenue system; technology and agricultural production. Urbanisation, technology and non-agricultural production; trade, markets and monetization; Cultural patterns (Arts, Architecture and Literature). Political and Social History of Bahmani and Viynanagar.

C. Political condition of North India on the eve of Babur's invasion. Foundation of the empire, Mughal-Afghan Contest for supremacy of North India; Shers Shah (Administrative system). Humayun (Reconsolidation of the Empire). Akbar to Aurangzeb (Religious and Rajput policy). Mughal Administration. (Revenue and Mansabdari system); Art and Architecture.

5.2.13(5)

D. Mughal Policy towards the Sikhs, Marathas, Deccan kingdoms. Formation of the Maratha state. Decline and disintegration of the Mughal Empire. Rise of regional powers.

E. Growth of Religious thought; Bhakti, Sufi and Sikh Movement in India (Sankaracharya, Chaitnya, Ramananda, Kabir, Nanak)

Essential Reading:

Chandra, Satish, *Medieval India: From Sultanat to the Mughals-Delhi Sultanat (1206-1526) Part One*, Har-Anand Publications, Delhi, 1997.

✓Chandra, Satish, *Medieval India, Part Two, Mughal Empire, (1526-1748)*, Har-Anand Publications, Delhi, 1999.

Habib, Irfan, *Interpreting Indian History*, NEHU, Shillong, 1985.

Habin, M & K.A. Nizami (eds), *Comprehensive History of India, Vol V A.D. 1206-1526: The Delhi Sultanate*, PPH, Delhi, 1987.

Khilnani, S., *The idea of India*, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, New York, 1999.

Moreland, W.H., *Aggrarian System of Mughal India*, D.K. Publishers (Low price edition New Delhi 2003).

Rizvi, S.A.A., *The wonder that was India*, Rupa & Co., New Delhi, 2002.

Additional Reading:

Spear, Percival, *Pelican History of India, Vol. 2*, Penguin, Harmondsworth, 2011.

Tripathi, R.P., *Rise and Fall of Mughal Empire*, Central Book Depot, Allahabad, 1990.

_____, *Some Aspects of Muslim Administration*, Central Book Depot, Allahabad, 1994.