BHIC-107 HISTORY OF INDIA IV (c. 1206-1550)

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS
Course code: BHIC-107
Assignment Code: BHIC-107/ASST/TMA/2026-27
Marks: 100

Note: There are three Sections in the Assignment. You have to answer all questions in the Sections.

Assignment - I

Answer the following in about 500 words each.

1. Critically examine the political chronicles of Delhi Sultanate. 20

2. Write an essay on the composition of Sultanate ruling class. 20

Assignment - II

Answer the following in about 250 words each.

3. Describe the relation of southern kingdoms with Delhi Sultanate. 10

4. Write a note on the emergence of new kingdoms in Assam during 13^{th}- 15^{th} centuries. 10

5. Discuss the important features of inland trade under Delhi Sultanate. 10

Assignment - III

Answer the following in about 100 words each.

6. The Mongol problem 6

7. The Nayankara system 6

8. Currency system of Delhi Sultans 6

9. Jain tradition 6

10. Public works under Delhi Sultanate 6

1. Critically examine the political chronicles of Delhi Sultanate. 20

Answer

The political chronicles of the Delhi Sultanate are indispensable for studying the rulers, institutions, wars and political thinking of the thirteenth to fifteenth centuries. Most were written in Persian, the principal language of the Sultanate's administration and learned elite. Yet they are not neutral accounts of everything that happened. Their authors wrote for patrons, worked within particular literary conventions and judged events through their ideas about good government, religion and social rank. A critical reading must therefore identify both their evidence and their silences.

The main chroniclers and their works

Hasan Nizami's Taj-ul-Maasir is among the earliest narratives of the Ghurid conquest and the establishment of Turkish power in north India. It presents the achievements of Muizzuddin Muhammad Ghuri and Qutbuddin Aibak in an elaborate, courtly style. It is useful for the sequence and political language of conquest, but the praise of patrons and rhetorical descriptions of victory warn against taking every claim literally.

Minhaj-us-Siraj Juzjani composed the Tabaqat-i-Nasiri in the mid-thirteenth century. Its biographical arrangement covers the Ghurids, early Delhi rulers and important nobles. As a scholar connected to the ruling establishment, Minhaj provides significant details about succession struggles, military officers and Mongol pressure. Nevertheless, his preferences, especially towards certain Turkish elites, shape his descriptions of competing factions and rulers such as Raziyya.

Amir Khusrau combined literary skill with close experience of several courts. His works, including Khaza'in-ul-Futuh (Tarikh-i-Alai) and Tughlaqnama, illuminate Alauddin Khalji's campaigns and the transition to Tughlaq rule. They preserve contemporary political ideas and valuable observations, but poetic praise, selective reporting and celebration of royal victories can hide reverses and coercion. His writing must not be read as a complete administrative record.

Ziauddin Barani's Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi is especially important for the Khalji and early Tughlaq periods. Barani discussed ministers, nobles, market regulations, rebellions and the moral responsibilities of kings. His Fatawa-i-Jahandari is more a statement of preferred political principles than a chronicle. His defence of