BHIC-133 History of India from c. 1206 to 1707

(TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS)

Course code: BHIC-133

Assignment Code: BHIC-133/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 and Mughals. 20

2. Explain the central administration under the Mughals. 20

Assignment-II

Answer the following in about 250 words each.

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

4. Discuss the nature of the Mughal-Maratha relation between 1680 and 1707. 10

5. Describe the methods of land revenue assessment under Mughals. 10

Assignment- III

Answer the following in about 100 words each.

6. The Rathors of Marwar 6

7. Nayak kingdoms 6

8. Three classes of *Mansabdars* 6

9. *Iqta* system 6

10. The Naqshabandi *silsilah* 6

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

Answer

The political chronicles of the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughal Empire are among the most valuable written sources for medieval Indian history. Most were composed in Persian, the language of administration and learned culture, although some important memoirs appeared first in other languages. They record rulers, wars, successions and government, but they were also written to praise patrons, defend political ideas or offer moral lessons. For this reason, historians must examine both their information and the purposes for which they were written.

Chronicles of the Delhi Sultanate

Minhaj-us-Siraj's *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*, written in the thirteenth century, is a major source for the early Delhi Sultans, especially the period of Iltutmish and his successors. Its biographical and dynastic arrangement helps trace the rise of Turkish ruling groups. Yet Minhaj wrote from the standpoint of a learned Muslim associated with the ruling establishment. His treatment of events reflects the priorities of the elite rather than those of the wider population.

Amir Khusrau, poet and court intellectual, wrote works such as *Khaza'in-ul-Futuh* on Alauddin Khalji's conquests and *Tughluqnama* on the transition to the Tughluq dynasty. These provide lively descriptions of campaigns and royal achievements. However, praise of the monarch and the literary style may conceal reverses or soften criticism. Historical details therefore need to be separated from poetic exaggeration.

Ziauddin Barani's *Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi* is especially important for the Khalji and Tughluq periods. Barani did more than list events: he discussed the nature of kingship, the conduct of nobles and the causes of political instability. His *Fatawa-i-Jahandari* described his ideal of political order. This makes him useful for studying political thought, but it also exposes his strong social hierarchy, preference for privileged groups and religious prejudices. His advice about how a state *should* work cannot simply be treated as a description of how it actually worked.

Shams-i-Siraj Afif wrote another *Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi* covering Firuz Shah Tughluq. He described public works, state departments and court customs, often presenting Firuz Shah favourably. Isami's *Futuh-us-Salatin*, composed in the Deccan, gives a different and sometimes critical account of Delhi politics, particularly Muhammad bin Tughluq. Comparing such writers reveals that