BHIM 162: History of Bharat

(From 8th Century to 17th Century CE)

(TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT)

Course code: BHIM- 162

Assignment Code: BHIM- 162/ASST/TMA/2026-27

Marks: 100

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

Assignment -I

Answer the following in about 500 words each.

1. Discuss the rise and growth of important Rajput kingdoms from 8th to 12th century CE. 20

2. Write an essay on the major crafts and their development from 8th to 12th century CE. 20

Assignment- II

Answer the following in about 250 words each.

3. Write a note on the invasions of Mahmud Ghazanavi. 10

4. Discuss the development of art and architecture in the Vijayanagara empire. 10

5. What were the changes introduced in *mansabdari* system during the reign of Jahangir, Shahjahan and Aurangzeb? 10

Assignment- III

Answer the following in about 100 words each.

6. Agrarian rebellion in Sultanate 6

7. Sufi tradition in Mughal period 6

8. The Rathore Resistance 6

9. Ibadat Khana and non-Muslim participation 6

10. Suhummung or Dihingia Raja (1497-1539) 6

1. Discuss the rise and growth of important Rajput kingdoms from 8th to 12th century CE. **20**

Answer

The period between the eighth and twelfth centuries witnessed the formation and expansion of several powerful Rajput-ruled kingdoms in northern and western Bharat. The decline of major earlier imperial authorities created opportunities for regional lineages to consolidate territories. The expression “Rajput” itself acquired wider political and social significance over time. These ruling groups included lineages claiming different ancestries, and their authority depended on military success, land rights, alliances, religious patronage and recognition by local elites. Their history should therefore be understood as the growth of competing regional states rather than as the rise of a single Rajput empire.

Gurjara-Pratiharas

The Gurjara-Pratiharas became a major power in western and northern India. Nagabhata I is associated with resisting Arab expansion from Sindh, while later rulers extended influence across Rajasthan and Malwa. Vatsaraja and Nagabhata II struggled with the Palas of Bengal and Rashtrakutas of the Deccan for control of Kannauj, an important centre of political prestige and communications. Mihira Bhoja, ruling in the ninth century, strengthened the Pratihara monarchy, which at its height exercised authority over extensive parts of northern India. The dynasty used provincial chiefs and dependent rulers, but such arrangements could become unstable when central power weakened. By the tenth century the empire fragmented, helping independent regional houses emerge.

Chauhans or Chahamanas

The Chahamanas first rose around Shakambhari and Ajmer and later gained an important position in the Delhi-Ajmer region. Vigraharaja IV expanded political influence, and Prithviraja III became the dynasty’s best-known ruler. His struggles with neighbouring Rajput rulers reveal that conflicts were not confined to resistance against outside powers. The two battles of Tarain in 1191 and 1192 were decisive episodes in his conflict with Muhammad Ghori. Victory in the first did not prevent defeat in the second; the latter seriously weakened Chauhan power in the strategic north-western corridor. Later heroic accounts of Prithviraj require careful comparison with contemporary evidence.

Chandellas of Jejakabhukti

The Chandellas built their kingdom in Bundelkhand, especially the Khajuraho region. Originally associated with Pratihara overlordship, they grew