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Complete Syllabus • Conceptual Flowcharts • Comparative Tables • Solved Practice Questions

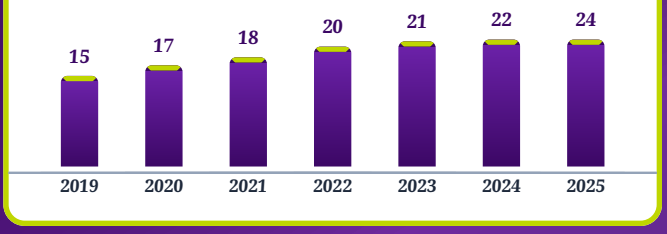
MEDIEVAL INDIAN HISTORY — COMPLETE STUDY NOTES

Early Medieval Tripartite Struggle, Chola Empire, Delhi Sultanate, Vijayanagara & Bahmani Kingdoms, Bhakti & Sufi Movements, Mughal Empire & Maratha Confederacy for UPSC, State PCS, SSC, CDS & NDA

Topic-Wise Exam Weightage Distribution (%)



Previous Years' Question Trend Analysis



Target Competitive, Entrance & Departmental Examinations

UPSC CSE • UPPSC/BPSC/State PCS • SSC CGL/CHSL/GD • NDA/CDS/CAPF • UGC-NET History • State Teaching

Core Syllabus Pillars & Exam Question Weightage (%)

- Delhi Sultanate Polity, Iqta System & Market Reforms (24%)
- Mughal Administration, Mansabdari, Jagirdari & Architecture (24%)
- Vijayanagara Empire, Nayankara System & Foreign Travellers (18%)
- Bhakti & Sufi Movements, Saints, Silsilahs & Literature (18%)
- Chola Local Self-Government & Maratha Ashta Pradhan (16%)

Complete Theory
NCERT & Official Sources

Visual Flowcharts
Comparative Matrices

Memory Tricks
Exam Trap Alerts

75+ Solved MCQs
One-Liner Capsules

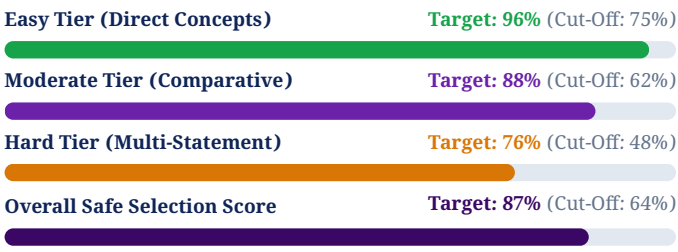
Preface, Exam Weightage Dashboard & Study Strategy — MEDIEVAL INDIAN HISTORY — COMPLETE STUDY NOTES

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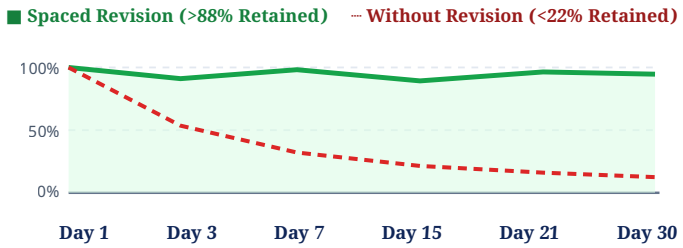
Dear Aspirants,

Modern competitive, entrance, and departmental promotion examinations demand a combination of deep conceptual clarity, statutory precision, and rapid revision tools. Prepared by **Inclusive Universal Careers Academy (IUC Academy — www.iucacademy.com)**, these comprehensive English-medium study notes integrate **structured chapter theory, 4-node conceptual process flowcharts, multi-column comparative tables, inline mathematical/scientific formulas, 'Did You Know?' boxes, 'Exam Trap Alert' callouts, 'Memory Trick' mnemonics, Chapter-End Analytical Synthesis Matrices, 75+ Step-by-Step Solved MCQs, and Rapid-Fire One-Liner Revision Capsules**.

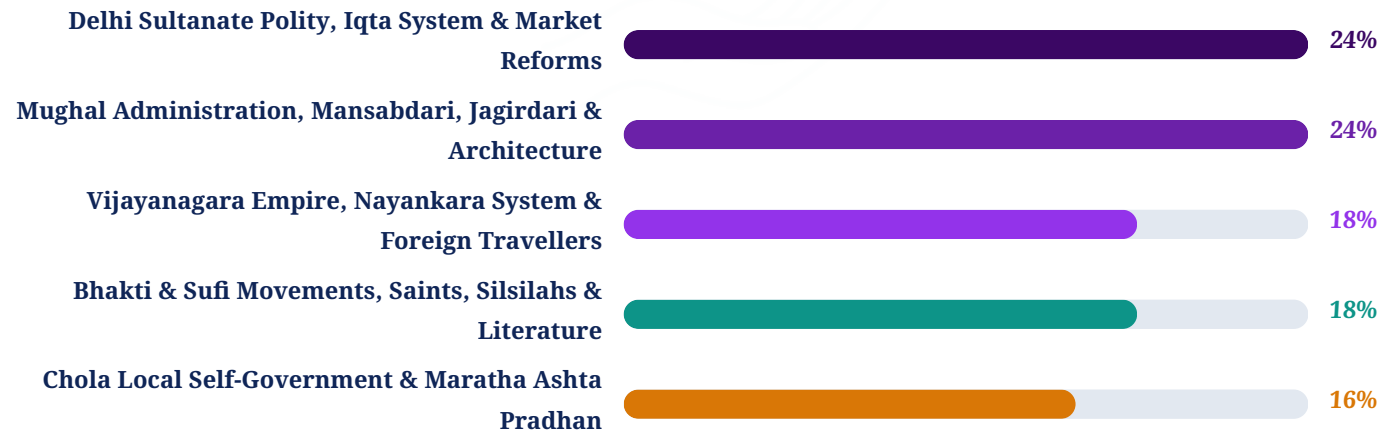
Target Accuracy vs Qualifying Cut-Off Benchmark (%)



Spaced Revision (1-3-7-21 Day Rule) & Retention Curve



Topic-Wise Exam Question Weightage Index (%)



Verified Official Curriculum & Statutory Reference Portals

- **NCERT Medieval India Textbooks** (https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php)
- **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** (https://asi.nic.in/)
- **Indian Culture Portal** (https://indianculture.gov.in/)
- **UPSC Official Syllabus Portal** (https://upsc.gov.in/)
- **IUC Academy Official Portal** (https://www.iucacademy.com)

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Chapter 1: Early Medieval India (750–1200 CE) — Tripartite Struggle, Rajputs, Ghaznavid & Ghurid Invasions

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 1: Early Medieval India (750–1200 CE) — Tripartite Struggle, Rajputs, Ghaznavid & Ghurid Invasions

Key Study Pillar 1
The Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj (8th–10th Century CE)

Key Study Pillar 2
Rajput Kingdoms, Arab Conquest of Sindh, Mahmud of Ghazni, and Muhammad Ghori

Key Study Pillar 3
Early Medieval Regional Sub-Schools of Temple Architecture and Epigraphic Land Grants

1.1 The Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj (8th–10th Century CE)

• **Geopolitical Centrality of Kannauj (*Mahodaya*):** Following the post-Harsha vacuum, control over Kannauj symbolized paramountcy over the fertile **Ganga-Yamuna Doab** and its trans-regional trade routes, sparking a two-century contest among three powers (NCERT):

1. **Gurjara-Pratiharas of Western India & Avanti:** Founded by **Nagabhata I** (who repulsed Arab governor Junaid of Sindh); consolidated by **Vatsaraja** and **Nagabhata II**; reached its zenith under **Mihira Bhoja (836–885 CE)**, a devotee of Vishnu (*Adi-Varaha* silver *dramma* coins) described by Arab merchant **Sulaiman** as possessing the finest cavalry in India and maintaining fierce hostility toward Arab raiders. **Mahendrapala I** and **Mahipala I** patronized Sanskrit dramatist **Rajashekhara** (*Karpuramanjari*, *Kavyamimamsa*, *Balaramayana*) (Indian Culture Portal).

2. **Palas of Bengal and Bihar:** Founded in **750 CE** when **Gopala** was elected by regional notables (*Prakritis*) to end *Matsyanyaya* (anarchy where big fish swallow small fish), and built **Odantapuri Mahavihara**. **Dharmapala (770–810 CE)** held a grand durbar at Kannauj installing Chakrayudha, founded the **Vikramashila** and **Somapura (Paharpur)** Mahaviharas, and donated 200 villages to Nalanda. **Devapala** defeated the Pratiharas and Hunas, and granted five villages at the request of **Balaputradeva** (Sailendra king of Suvarnadvipa/Sumatra) for a monastery at Nalanda. Arab traveler **Sulaiman** referred to the Pala kingdom as *Ruhma* (*Dharma*) (ASI).

3. **Rashtrakutas of Manyakheta (Malkhed, Karnataka):** Founded by **Dantidurga** (who overthrew Badami Chalukya Kirtivarman II and performed the **Hiranyagarbha** ritual at Ujjain). **Krishna I** excavated the monolithic **Kailasa Temple (Cave 16) at Ellora**; **Dhruva Dharavarsha** and **Govinda III** marched north to defeat both Pratiharas and Palas; **Amoghavarsha I (814–878 CE)** built the capital **Manyakheta**, authored the first Kannada poetics treatise **Kavirajamarga** and Sanskrit **Prashnottara Ratnamalika**, and was praised by Arab writer Sulaiman as one of the four great monarchs of the world. **Indra III** (915 CE) and **Krishna III** (who defeated Chola king Parantaka I at the **Battle of Takkolam, 949 CE**) marked the final Rashtrakuta zenith (NCERT).

1.2 Rajput Kingdoms, Arab Conquest of Sindh, Mahmud of Ghazni, and Muhammad Ghori

• **Prominent Rajput Dynasties: Chahamanas (Chauhans) of Shakambhari/Ajmer** (Vigraharaja IV *Visaladeva* composed the Sanskrit play *Harikeli Nataka* inscribed on stone slabs at Ajmer; **Prithviraj III / Rai Pithora** was immortalized in Chand Bardai's *Prithviraj Raso* and Jayanaka's *Prithvirajavijaya*); **Gahadavalas of Kannauj** (Govindachandra and **Jayachandra**); **Chandellas of Jejakabhukti/Bundelkhand** (Dhanga, Vidyadhara — builders of the **Khajuraho** Nagara temples including **Kandariya Mahadeva**); **Paramaras of Malwa** (**Raja Bhoja** of Dhara, author of *Samarangana Sutradhara* and builder of Bhojpur Lake); and **Solankis (Chaulukyas) of Gujarat** (Bhima I, under whose minister Vimala Shah the **Dilwara Jain Vimala Vasahi Temple** at Mount Abu was built, and **Kumarapala**, patron of Jaina polymath **Hemachandra**) (ASI).

• **Arab, Ghaznavid, and Ghurid Campaigns:**

• **Muhammad bin Qasim (712 CE):** Conquered Sindh after defeating Brahmana ruler **Dahir** at the **Battle of Aror (Rawar)**; documented in the Persian chronicle **Chachnama**; introduced the **Jizya** poll tax in Sindh (NCERT).

• **Mahmud of Ghazni (998–1030 CE):** Launched **17 plundering raids** into India (defeating Hindu Shahi kings **Jayapala** and **Anandapala** at Waihind, sacking Mathura and Kannauj in 1018 CE, and plundering the **Somnath Temple** in Gujarat in **1025 CE** during the reign of Solanki ruler Bhima I). His court scholars included **Al-Biruni** (author of the Arabic encyclopaedia **Kitab-ul-Hind / Tahqiq-i-Hind**), **Firdausi** (author of the Persian epic **Shahnama**), and historian **Utbi** (*Kitab-ul-Yamini*) (Indian Culture Portal).

• **Muhammad Ghori (Muizzuddin Muhammad bin Sam):** Repulsed in 1178 CE at **Kayadra (Mount Abu)** by Solanki queen regent **Naikidevi** and young Mularaja II/Bhima II; defeated by **Prithviraj Chauhan III** in the **First Battle of Tarain (1191 CE)**; triumphed decisively in the **Second Battle of Tarain (1192 CE)** and defeated **Jayachandra of Kannauj** at the **Battle of Chandawar (1194 CE)**, while his general **Bakhtiyar Khalji** devastated the monastic universities of **Nalanda, Vikramashila, and Odantapuri** (NCERT).

1.3 Early Medieval Regional Sub-Schools of Temple Architecture and Epigraphic Land Grants

• **Regional Flowering of Nagara Architecture (9th–13th Century CE):**

• **Odisha (Kalinga) School (*Rekha Deul, Pidha Deul, Khakhara Deul*):** Characterized by exterior walls lavishly carved and interior walls left plain ("*the exterior is lavished with wealth while the interior is austere*"), absence of pillars in the porch (*Jagamohana*), and iron girders — exemplified by the **Mukteshvara Temple** ("Gem of Odisha Architecture"), **Rajarani Temple**, **Lingaraja Temple (Bhubaneswar, c. 1000–1060 CE by Yayati Keshari)**, **Jagannath Temple (Puri, 12th century by Anantavarman Chodaganga Deva)**, and the **Sun Temple at Konark ("Black Pagoda", c. 1250 CE by Eastern Ganga king Narasimhadeva I)** designed as a 24-wheeled solar chariot (ASI).

• **Chandella (Khajuraho / Central India) School:** Built on high granite/sandstone platforms (*Jagati*) in **Panchayatana** layout where both interior and exterior walls are richly sculpted with *Surasundaris* and *Mithuna* motifs, using **Sekhari** (grouped miniature spires *Urushringas*) towers — exemplified by the **Lakshmana Temple** (by Yashovarman), **Vishvanatha Temple** (by Dhanga), **Kandariya Mahadeva Temple** (by Vidyadhara), and **Chausath Yogini & Parsvanatha Jain Temples** (ASI).

• **Solanki (Maru-Gurjara) School of Gujarat & Rajasthan:** Patronized by Chaulukya/Solanki rulers, featuring stepped water tanks (**Surya Kund** with 108 miniature shrines at the **Modhera Sun Temple** built by **Bhima I in 1026 CE**), **Rani-ki-Vav** stepwell at Patan (built by Queen **Udayamati**), and translucent white marble **Dilwara Jain Temples at Mount Abu** (*Vimala Vasahi* 1031 CE and *Luna Vasahi* 1230 CE by Vastupala and Tejpala) (NCERT).

Temple Complex	Dynasty & Patron Ruler	Century & Location	Distinctive Architectural Feature	Official Source
Konark Sun Temple	Eastern Ganga — **Narasimhadeva I**	13th Century (Puri District, Odisha)	12 pairs of carved stone wheels (sundials) drawn by 7 horses; chloritic *Khandolite* stone	ASI
Kandariya Mahadeva	Chandella — **Vidyadhara**	11th Century (Khajuraho, MP)	84 miniature *Urushringa* spires ascending the central *Shikhara; Sandhara* ambulatory	ASI
Modhera Sun Temple & Rani-ki-Vav	Solanki — **Bhima I & Queen Udayamati**	11th Century (Mehsana & Patan, Gujarat)	Equinox solar alignment into sanctum; 7-tiered subterranean stepwell with *Dashavatara* sculptures	National Museum
Chola Gangai-konda-cholapuram & Darasuram	Imperial Chola — **Rajendra I & Rajaraja II**	11th–12th Century (Tamil Nadu)	Concave *Vimana* curve (Gangaikondacholapuram); chariot-shaped *Mandapa* at **Airavatesvara Temple (Darasuram)**	IUC Academy

• **Rajput Clan Agnikula Origin Myth:** Propounded in **Padmagupta's *Navasahasankacharita*** and **Chand Bardai's *Prithviraj Raso***, claiming that four Rajput clans — **Pratiharas, Chalukyas (Solankis), Paramaras, and Chahamanas (Chauhans)** — emerged from a sacrificial fire-pit (*Agnikunda*) officiated by Sage Vasishtha at **Mount Abu** (NCERT).

• **Sena Dynasty of Bengal (11th–12th Century CE):** Founded by **Samantasena** and consolidated by **Vijayasena** (originating from Karnataka as *Brahma-Kshatriyas*); **Ballalasena** introduced **Kulinism** (social genealogical hierarchy among Brahmanas and Kayasthas) and authored **Danasagara** and **Adbhutasagara**; **Lakshmanasena** patronized **Jayadeva** (author of the Sanskrit lyrical masterpiece **Gita Govinda**), **Dhoyi** (*Pavanaduta*), and **Halayudha** (Indian Culture Portal).

• **Tomaras of Delhi:** Founded **Dhillika (Delhi)** in 736 CE (**Anangpal Tomar** built the *Lal Kot* fort and *Surajkund* reservoir) before being subordinated by the **Chahamanas of Ajmer** under **Vigraharaja IV** (ASI).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj among Gurjara-Pratiharas, Palas & Rashtrakutas (750–950 CE)

STEP 2
Proliferation of Regional Rajput Polities (Chauhans, Gahadavalas, Chandellas, Paramaras, Solankis)

STEP 3
17 Ghaznavid Raids (1000–1027 CE) & Al-Biruni's Indological Treatise Kitab-ul-Hind

STEP 4
Ghurid Conquest via Second Battle of Tarain (1192 CE) & Battle of Chandawar (1194 CE)

Dynasty / Invader	Core Territory & Capital	Key Rulers / Commanders	Major Cultural, Literary, or Military Landmarks	Official Reference
Gurjara-Pratihara	Avanti & Kannauj	Nagabhata I, Mihira Bhoja, Mahendrapala I	*Adi-Varaha* silver coinage; patronized poet **Rajashekhara**; Teli-ka-Mandir (Gwalior)	ASI
Pala Dynasty	Bengal & Bihar (Munger)	Gopala, Dharmapala, Devapala, Mahipala I	Founded **Odantapuri, Vikramashila (Atisha Dipankara), Somapura**; Pala miniature manuscripts	National Museum
Rashtrakuta Dynasty	Deccan (Manyakheta / Malkhed)	Dantidurga, Krishna I, Amoghavarsha I, Krishna III	**Ellora Cave 16 (Kailasa)**, Elephanta Caves; *Kavirajamarga*; patronized Jaina mathematicians (**Mahaviracharya's** *Ganitasarasangraha*)	Indian Culture Portal
Kashmir Kingdoms (Karkota, Utpala, Lohara)	Kashmir Valley (Parihasapura / Srinagar)	Lalitaditya Muktapida, Avantivarman, **Queen Didda**	Martand Sun Temple (Lalitaditya); irrigation engineer **Suyya** (Avantivarman); chronicled in **Kalhana's Rajatarangini (1148–50 CE)**	NCERT
Shahi & Ghurid Campaigns	North-West & Gangetic Doab	Prithviraj III, Jayachandra vs. Muhammad Ghori	1st Tarain (1191), 2nd Tarain (1192), Chandawar (1194); early **Dehliwal** billon coins bearing **Lakshmi** and Nagari legends	UPSC

Did You Know?: After conquering northern India, **Muhammad Ghori** issued gold and billon coins modelled on local Gahadavala and Chauhan prototypes that depicted **Goddess Lakshmi** on the obverse and his own name "*Sri Muhammad bin Sam*" inscribed in **Devanagari script** on the reverse to ensure seamless commercial acceptance (National Museum).

Exam Trap Alert: Al-Biruni did **not** come to India with Muhammad Ghori; he was captured by **Mahmud of Ghazni** during the conquest of **Khwarizm (1017 CE)** and later travelled in Punjab, learning Sanskrit to translate Euclid, Ptolemy, and Patanjali's *Yogasutras* into Arabic and authoring the 80-chapter **Kitab-ul-Hind** (UPSC).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the chronological order of the three Kashmir dynasties documented in Kalhana's *Rajatarangini* using **"K-U-L"** — **K**arkota (Durlabhavardhana, Lalitaditya) -> **U**tpala (Avantivarman, Queen Didda) -> **L**ohara (Sangramaraja, Harsha, Jayasimha) (IUC Academy).

Chapter *1* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
The Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj (8th–10th Century CE)	**Geopolitical Centrality of Kannauj (*Mahodaya*)**	**Following the post-Harsha vacuum, control over Kannauj symbolized paramountcy over the fertile** Ganga-Yamuna Doab** and its trans-regional trade routes, sparking a two-century contest among three powers (NCERT):

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Rajput Kingdoms, Arab Conquest of Sindh, Mahmud of Ghazni, and Muhammad Ghori	**Gurjara-Pratiharas of Western India & Avanti**	Founded by **Nagabhata I** (who repulsed Arab governor Junaid of Sindh); consolidated by **Vatsaraja** and **Nagabhata II**; reached its zenith under **Mihira Bhoja (836–885 CE)**, a devotee of Vishnu (*Adi-Varaha* silver *dramma* coins) described by Arab merchant **Sulaiman** as possessing the finest cavalry in India and maintaining fierce hostility toward Arab raiders. **Mahendrapala I** and **Mahipala I** patronized Sanskrit dramatist **Rajashekhara** (*Karpuramanjari*, *Kavyamimamsa*, *Balaramayana*) (Indian Culture Portal).
Early Medieval Regional Sub-Schools of Temple Architecture and Epigraphic Land Grants	**Palas of Bengal and Bihar**	Founded in **750 CE** when **Gopala** was elected by regional notables (*Prakritis*) to end *Matsyanyaya* (anarchy where big fish swallow small fish), and built **Odantapuri Mahavihara**. **Dharmapala (770–810 CE)** held a grand durbar at Kannauj installing Chakrayudha, founded the **Vikramashila** and **Somapura (Paharpur)** Mahaviharas, and donated 200 villages to Nalanda. **Devapala** defeated the Pratiharas and Hunas, and granted five villages at the request of **Balaputradeva** (Sailendra king of Suvarnadvipa/Sumatra) for a monastery at Nalanda. Arab traveler **Sulaiman** referred to the Pala kingdom as *Ruhma* (*Dharma*) (ASI).
The Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj (8th–10th Century CE)	**Rashtrakutas of Manyakheta (Malkhed, Karnataka)**	Founded by **Dantidurga** (who overthrew Badami Chalukya Kirtivarman II and performed the **Hiranyagarbha** ritual at Ujjain). **Krishna I** excavated the monolithic **Kailasa Temple (Cave 16) at Ellora**; **Dhruva Dharavarsha** and **Govinda III** marched north to defeat both Pratiharas and Palas; **Amoghavarsha I (814–878 CE)** built the capital **Manyakheta**, authored the first Kannada poetics treatise **Kavirajamarga** and Sanskrit **Prashnottara Ratnamalika**, and was praised by Arab writer Sulaiman as one of the four great monarchs of the world. **Indra III** (915 CE) and **Krishna III** (who defeated Chola king Parantaka I at the **Battle of Takkolam, 949 CE**) marked the final Rashtrakuta zenith (NCERT).
Rajput Kingdoms, Arab Conquest of Sindh, Mahmud of Ghazni, and Muhammad Ghori	**Prominent Rajput Dynasties**	**Chahamanas (Chauhans) of Shakambhari/Ajmer** (Vigraharaja IV *Visaladeva* composed the Sanskrit play *Harikeli Nataka* inscribed on stone slabs at Ajmer; **Prithviraj III / Rai Pithora** was immortalized in Chand Bardai's *Prithviraj Raso* and Jayanaka's *Prithvirajavijaya*); **Gahadavalas of Kannauj** (Govindachandra and **Jayachandra**); **Chandellas of Jejakabhukti/Bundelkhand** (Dhanga, Vidyadhara — builders of the **Khajuraho** Nagara temples including **Kandariya Mahadeva**); **Paramaras of Malwa** (**Raja Bhoja** of Dhara, author of *Samarangana Sutradhara* and builder of Bhojpur Lake); and **Solankis (Chaulukyas) of Gujarat** (Bhima I, under whose minister Vimala Shah the **Dilwara Jain Vimala Vasahi Temple** at Mount Abu was built, and **Kumarapala**, patron of Jaina polymath **Hemachandra**) (ASI).
Early Medieval Regional Sub-Schools of Temple Architecture and Epigraphic Land Grants	**Muhammad bin Qasim (712 CE)**	Conquered Sindh after defeating Brahmana ruler **Dahir** at the **Battle of Aror (Rawar)**; documented in the Persian chronicle **Chachnama**; introduced the **Jizya** poll tax in Sindh (NCERT).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
The Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj (8th–10th Century CE)	**Mahmud of Ghazni (998–1030 CE)**	Launched **17 plundering raids** into India (defeating Hindu Shahi kings **Jayapala** and **Anandapala** at Waihind, sacking Mathura and Kannauj in 1018 CE, and plundering the **Somnath Temple** in Gujarat in **1025 CE** during the reign of Solanki ruler Bhima I). His court scholars included **Al-Biruni** (author of the Arabic encyclopaedia **Kitab-ul-Hind / Tahqiq-i-Hind**), **Firdausi** (author of the Persian epic **Shahnama**), and historian **Utbi** (*Kitab-ul-Yamini*) (Indian Culture Portal).
Rajput Kingdoms, Arab Conquest of Sindh, Mahmud of Ghazni, and Muhammad Ghori	**Muhammad Ghori (Muizzuddin Muhammad bin Sam)**	Repulsed in 1178 CE at **Kayadra (Mount Abu)** by Solanki queen regent **Naikidevi** and young Mularaja II/Bhima II; defeated by **Prithviraj Chauhan III** in the **First Battle of Tarain (1191 CE)**; triumphed decisively in the **Second Battle of Tarain (1192 CE)** and defeated **Jayachandra of Kannauj** at the **Battle of Chandawar (1194 CE)**, while his general **Bakhtiyar Khalji** devastated the monastic universities of **Nalanda, Vikramashila, and Odantapuri** (NCERT).
Early Medieval Regional Sub-Schools of Temple Architecture and Epigraphic Land Grants	**Odisha (Kalinga) School (*Rekha Deul, Pidha Deul, Khakhara Deul*)**	**Characterized by exterior walls lavishly carved and interior walls left plain ("*the exterior is lavished with wealth while the interior is austere*"), absence of pillars in the porch (*Jagamohana*), and iron girders — exemplified by the** Mukteshvara Temple **("Gem of Odisha Architecture"),** Rajarani Temple**,** Lingaraja Temple (Bhubaneswar, c. *1000–1060* CE by Yayati Keshari)**,** Jagannath Temple (Puri, 12th century by Anantavarman Chodaganga Deva)**, and the** Sun Temple at Konark ("Black Pagoda", c. *1250* CE by Eastern Ganga king Narasimhadeva I)** designed as a 24-wheeled solar chariot (ASI).
The Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj (8th–10th Century CE)	**Chandella (Khajuraho / Central India) School**	Built on high granite/sandstone platforms (*Jagati*) in **Panchayatana** layout where both interior and exterior walls are richly sculpted with *Surasundaris* and *Mithuna* motifs, using **Sekhari** (grouped miniature spires *Urushringas*) towers — exemplified by the **Lakshmana Temple** (by Yashovarman), **Vishvanatha Temple** (by Dhanga), **Kandariya Mahadeva Temple** (by Vidyadhara), and **Chausath Yogini & Parsvanatha Jain Temples** (ASI).
Rajput Kingdoms, Arab Conquest of Sindh, Mahmud of Ghazni, and Muhammad Ghori	**Solanki (Maru-Gurjara) School of Gujarat & Rajasthan**	Patronized by Chaulukya/Solanki rulers, featuring stepped water tanks (**Surya Kund** with 108 miniature shrines at the **Modhera Sun Temple** built by **Bhima I in 1026 CE**), **Rani-ki-Vav** stepwell at Patan (built by Queen **Udayamati**), and translucent white marble **Dilwara Jain Temples at Mount Abu** (*Vimala Vasahi* 1031 CE and *Luna Vasahi* 1230 CE by Vastupala and Tejpala) (NCERT).
Early Medieval Regional Sub-Schools of Temple Architecture and Epigraphic Land Grants	**Rajput Clan Agnikula Origin Myth**	Propounded in **Padmagupta's *Navasahasankacharita*** and **Chand Bardai's *Prithviraj Raso***, claiming that four Rajput clans — **Pratiharas, Chalukyas (Solankis), Paramaras, and Chahamanas (Chauhans)** — emerged from a sacrificial fire-pit (*Agnikunda*) officiated by Sage Vasishtha at **Mount Abu** (NCERT).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
The Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj (8th–10th Century CE)	**Sena Dynasty of Bengal (11th–12th Century CE)**	Founded by **Samantasena** and consolidated by **Vijayasena** (originating from Karnataka as *Brahma-Kshatriyas*); **Ballalasena** introduced **Kulinism** (social genealogical hierarchy among Brahmanas and Kayasthas) and authored **Danasagara** and **Adbhutasagara**; **Lakshmanasena** patronized **Jayadeva** (author of the Sanskrit lyrical masterpiece **Gita Govinda**), **Dhoyi** (*Pavanaduta*), and **Halayudha** (Indian Culture Portal).
Rajput Kingdoms, Arab Conquest of Sindh, Mahmud of Ghazni, and Muhammad Ghori	**Tomaras of Delhi**	Founded **Dhillika (Delhi)** in 736 CE (**Anangpal Tomar** built the *Lal Kot* fort and *Surajkund* reservoir) before being subordinated by the **Chahamanas of Ajmer** under **Vigraharaja IV** (ASI).

Chapter *1* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Geopolitical Centrality of Kannauj (*Mahodaya*)): Following the post-Harsha vacuum, control over Kannauj symbolized paramountcy over the fertile Ganga-Yamuna Doab** and its trans-regional trade routes, sparking a two-century contest among three powers (NCERT):

Statement-II (Gurjara-Pratiharas of Western India & Avanti): Founded by **Nagabhata I** (who repulsed Arab governor Junaid of Sindh); consolidated by **Vatsaraja** and **Nagabhata II**; reached its zenith under **Mihira Bhoja (836–885 CE)**, a devotee of Vishnu (*Adi-Varaha* silver *dramma* coins) described by Arab merchant **Sulaiman** as possessing the finest cavalry in India and maintaining fierce hostility toward Arab raiders. **Mahendrapala I** and **Mahipala I** patronized Sanskrit dramatist **Rajashekhara** (*Karpuramanjari*, *Kavyamimamsa*, *Balaramayana*) (Indian Culture Portal).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Palas of Bengal and Bihar): Founded in **750 CE** when **Gopala** was elected by regional notables (*Prakritis*) to end *Matsyanyaya* (anarchy where big fish swallow small fish), and built **Odantapuri Mahavihara**. **Dharmapala (770–810 CE)** held a grand durbar at Kannauj installing Chakrayudha, founded the **Vikramashila** and **Somapura (Paharpur)** Mahaviharas, and donated 200 villages to Nalanda. **Devapala** defeated the Pratiharas and Hunas, and granted five villages at the request of **Balaputradeva** (Sailendra king of Suvarnadvipa/Sumatra) for a monastery at Nalanda. Arab traveler **Sulaiman** referred to the Pala kingdom as *Ruhma* (*Dharma*) (ASI).

Statement-II (Rashtrakutas of Manyakheta (Malkhed, Karnataka)): Founded by **Dantidurga** (who overthrew Badami Chalukya Kirtivarman II and performed the **Hiranyagarbha** ritual at Ujjain). **Krishna I** excavated the monolithic **Kailasa Temple (Cave 16) at Ellora**; **Dhruva Dharavarsha** and **Govinda III** marched north to defeat both Pratiharas and Palas; **Amoghavarsha I (814–878 CE)** built the capital **Manyakheta**, authored the first Kannada poetics treatise **Kavirajamarga** and Sanskrit **Prashnottara Ratnamalika**, and was praised by Arab writer Sulaiman as one of the four great monarchs of the world. **Indra III** (915 CE) and **Krishna III** (who defeated Chola king Parantaka I at the **Battle of Takkolam, 949 CE**) marked the final Rashtrakuta zenith (NCERT).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Prominent Rajput Dynasties): Chahamanas (Chauhans) of Shakambhari/Ajmer (Vigraharaja IV *Visaladeva* composed the Sanskrit play *Harikeli Nataka* inscribed on stone slabs at Ajmer; **Prithviraj III / Rai Pithora** was immortalized in Chand Bardai's *Prithviraj Raso* and Jayanaka's *Prithvirajavijaya*); **Gahadavalas of Kannauj** (Govindachandra and **Jayachandra**); **Chandellas of Jejakabhukti/Bundelkhand** (Dhanga, Vidyadhara — builders of the **Khajuraho** Nagara temples including **Kandariya Mahadeva**); **Paramaras of Malwa** (**Raja Bhoja** of Dhara, author of *Samarangana Sutradhara* and builder of Bhojpur Lake); and **Solankis (Chaulukyas) of Gujarat** (Bhima I, under whose minister Vimala Shah the **Dilwara Jain Vimala Vasahi Temple** at Mount Abu was built, and **Kumarapala**, patron of Jaina polymath **Hemachandra**) (ASI).

Statement-II (Muhammad bin Qasim (712 CE)): Conquered Sindh after defeating Brahmana ruler **Dahir** at the **Battle of Aror (Rawar)**; documented in the Persian chronicle **Chachnama**; introduced the **Jizya** poll tax in Sindh (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Mahmud of Ghazni (998–1030 CE)): Launched **17 plundering raids** into India (defeating Hindu Shahi kings **Jayapala** and **Anandapala** at Waihind, sacking Mathura and Kannauj in 1018 CE, and plundering the **Somnath Temple** in Gujarat in **1025 CE** during the reign of Solanki ruler Bhima I). His court scholars included **Al-Biruni** (author of the Arabic encyclopaedia **Kitab-ul-Hind / Tahqiq-i-Hind**), **Firdausi** (author of the Persian epic **Shahnama**), and historian **Utbi** (*Kitab-ul-Yamini*) (Indian Culture Portal).

Statement-II (Muhammad Ghori (Muizzuddin Muhammad bin Sam)): Repulsed in 1178 CE at **Kayadra (Mount Abu)** by Solanki queen regent **Naikidevi** and young Mularaja II/Bhima II; defeated by **Prithviraj Chauhan III** in the **First Battle of Tarain (1191 CE)**; triumphed decisively in the **Second Battle of Tarain (1192 CE)** and defeated **Jayachandra of Kannauj** at the **Battle of Chandawar (1194 CE)**, while his general **Bakhtiyar Khalji** devastated the monastic universities of **Nalanda, Vikramashila, and Odantapuri** (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Odisha (Kalinga) School (*Rekha Deul, Pidha Deul, Khakhara Deul*)): Characterized by exterior walls lavishly carved and interior walls left plain ("*the exterior is lavished with wealth while the interior is austere*"), absence of pillars in the porch (*Jagamohana*), and iron girders — exemplified by the Mukteshvara Temple **("Gem of Odisha Architecture"),** Rajarani Temple**,** Lingaraja Temple (Bhubaneswar, c. 1000–1060 CE by Yayati Keshari)**,** Jagannath Temple (Puri, 12th century by Anantavarman Chodaganga Deva)**, and the** Sun Temple at Konark ("Black Pagoda", c. 1250 CE by Eastern Ganga king Narasimhadeva I)** designed as a 24-wheeled solar chariot (ASI).

Statement-II (Chandella (Khajuraho / Central India) School): Built on high granite/sandstone platforms (*Jagati*) in **Panchayatana** layout where both interior and exterior walls are richly sculpted with *Surasundaris* and *Mithuna* motifs, using **Sekhari** (grouped miniature spires *Urushringas*) towers — exemplified by the **Lakshmana Temple** (by Yashovarman), **Vishvanatha Temple** (by Dhanga), **Kandariya Mahadeva Temple** (by Vidyadhara), and **Chausath Yogini & Parsvanatha Jain Temples** (ASI).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Solanki (Maru-Gurjara) School of Gujarat & Rajasthan): Patronized by Chaulukya/Solanki rulers, featuring stepped water tanks (**Surya Kund** with 108 miniature shrines at the **Modhera Sun Temple** built by **Bhima I in 1026 CE**), **Rani-ki-Vav** stepwell at Patan (built by Queen **Udayamati**), and translucent white marble **Dilwara Jain Temples at Mount Abu** (*Vimala Vasahi* 1031 CE and *Luna Vasahi* 1230 CE by Vastupala and Tejpala) (NCERT).

Statement-II (Rajput Clan Agnikula Origin Myth): Propounded in **Padmagupta's *Navasahasankacharita*** and **Chand Bardai's *Prithviraj Raso***, claiming that four Rajput clans — **Pratiharas, Chalukyas (Solankis), Paramaras, and Chahamanas (Chauhans)** — emerged from a sacrificial fire-pit (*Agnikunda*) officiated by Sage Vasishtha at **Mount Abu** (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *2:* The Delhi Sultanate I — Mamluk *(Slave)* and Khalji Dynasties *(1206–1320 CE)*

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 2: The Delhi Sultanate I — Mamluk (Slave) and Khalji Dynasties (1206–1320 CE)

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3
The Mamluk / Ilbari (Slave) Dynasty (1206–1290 CE)	**The Khalji Revolution and Alauddin Khalji's Imperial Reforms (1290–1320 CE)**	**Evolution of the Iqta System, Coinage Reforms, and Early Indo-Islamic Architecture**

2.1 The Mamluk / Ilbari *(Slave)* Dynasty *(1206–1290 CE)*

• **Qutbuddin Aibak (1206–1210 CE):** Former Turkic slave of Muhammad Ghori who ruled from **Lahore**, earned the title **Lakh Bakhsh** ("Giver of Lakhs"), commissioned the **Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque** (Delhi) and **Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra** (Ajmer), and laid the basement storey of the **Qutb Minar** in honour of Chishti Sufi saint **Khwaja Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki**, before dying at Lahore in 1210 while playing **Chaugan** (horse-polo) (ASI).

• **Shamsuddin Iltutmish (1210–1236 CE) — Real Consolidator of the Sultanate:**

• Shifted the capital permanently from Lahore to **Delhi** and defeated rival claimants Tajuddin Yildiz (at the Third Battle of Tarain, 1215–16 CE) and Nasiruddin Qabacha.

• Saved infant Delhi from **Chengiz Khan (Genghis Khan)** in 1221 CE by prudently refusing asylum to the fugitive Khwarizm Crown Prince **Jalaluddin Mangabarni** on the Indus (NCERT).

• Institutionalized the **Iqta System** (transferable revenue assignments in lieu of cash salaries), organized the **Turkan-i-Chahalgani** (*Chalisa* — corps of forty loyal Turkic slave-nobles), issued the first purely Arabic standard coinage — the **Silver Tanka (175 grains)** and **Copper Jital** — and received a formal **Manshur** (letter of investiture) from the **Abbasid Caliph of Baghdad in 1229 CE** (National Museum).

• **Raziya Sultan (1236–1240 CE):** First and only female ruler of the Delhi Sultanate; discarded female attire (*Purdah*), held open court in tunic (*Qaba*) and headdress (*Kulah*), and appointed Abyssinian noble **Jamaluddin Yaqut** as *Amir-i-Akhur* (Master of the Royal Stables), provoking a rebellion by the *Chahalgani* led by **Malik Altunia** of Bathinda. Chronicler **Minhaj-i-Siraj** (*Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*) acknowledged she possessed every kingly virtue except her gender (NCERT).

• **Ghiyasuddin Balban (*1266–1287* CE — *Ulugh Khan*):** Served as *Naib-i-Mamlakat* (Regent) under Sultan Nasiruddin Mahmud (*1246–1266* CE) before ascending the throne. Balban **liquidated the Turkan-i-Chahalgani**, propounded a Persianate theory of divine kingship (**Zill-i-Ilahi** — "Shadow of God on Earth" and **Niyabat-i-Khudai** — "Vicegerent of God"), enforced the court rituals of **Sijda** (prostration) and **Paibos** (kissing the monarch's feet) along with the Persian festival of **Nauroz**, established the central military department **Diwan-i-Arz** and an intelligence network of **Barids** (spies), and pursued the policy of **"Blood and Iron"** to clear the Mewati and Katehar forests (NCERT).

2.2 The Khalji Revolution and Alauddin Khalji's Imperial Reforms *(1290–1320* CE*)*

• **Jalaluddin Khalji (*1290–1296* CE):** Ended the Ilbari Turkic monopoly on power, advocating a benevolent state policy before being assassinated at Kara (near Prayagraj) by his nephew and son-in-law **Alauddin Khalji** (Ali Gurshasp) after Alauddin's daring raid on **Devagiri** (NCERT).

• **Alauddin Khalji (*1296–1316* CE) — Imperial Expansion and Mongol Defense:** Repelled six fierce Chagatai Mongol invasions (at Jaran-Manjur, Sivistan, Kili, Delhi, Amroha, and Ravi). Conquered **Gujarat (1299 CE)** (where general Nusrat Khan acquired **Malik Kafur Hazardinari** at Cambay), **Ranthambore (1301 CE)** (against Hammiradeva), **Chittor (1303 CE)** (against Rawal Ratan Singh, accompanied by poet **Amir Khusrau**), and **Malwa (1305 CE)**. For the Deccan, Alauddin dispatched **Malik Kafur** against four kingdoms to extract tribute rather than direct annexation: **Yadavas of Devagiri** (Ramachandra), **Kakatiyas of Warangal** (Prataparudra II), **Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra** (Vira Ballala III), and **Pandyas of Madurai** (Vira and Sundara Pandya) (Indian Culture Portal).

• **Administrative, Military, and Market Control Reforms:**

• Issued **Four Ordinances** to prevent noble rebellions: confiscated religious/free land grants (*Inam*/*Milk*/*Waqf*), reorganized the intelligence system (*Barids* & *Munhiyans*), banned wine/intoxicants in Delhi, and prohibited inter-marriages and private banquets among nobles without royal permission.

• Maintained a huge **centrally paid cash standing army**, introducing **Dagh** (branding of royal cavalry horses) and **Chehra / Huliya** (descriptive roll of every soldier).

• Fixed land revenue (**Kharaj**) at **50% (half of the gross produce)** based on actual land measurement (**Masahat** in *Biswa* units), abolished the hereditary perquisites (*Huquq-i-Khoti*) of rural intermediaries (**Khuts, Muqaddams, and Chaudharis**), levied **Ghari** (house tax) and **Charai** (pasture/milch-cattle tax), and established **Diwan-i-Mustakhraj** to recover revenue arrears from collectors (NCERT).

• Established **Three Regulated Markets in Delhi** under the **Shahna-i-Mandi** and **Diwan-i-Riyasat** (detailed in **Ziauddin Barani's** *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi*): (1) **Mandi** for foodgrains, (2) **Sarai-i-Adl** for cloth, sugar, dry fruits, and herbs, and (3) Market for horses, cattle, and slaves (UPSC).

2.3 Evolution of the Iqta System, Coinage Reforms, and Early Indo-Islamic Architecture

• **Structural Evolution of the Iqta System:** Derived from Seljuq West Asian administration, an **Iqta** was a transferable territorial revenue assignment granted to military commanders (**Muqtis / Walis**):

• Under **Iltutmish**, the *Muqti* collected land revenue, maintained a stipulated military contingent, and remitted the surplus (**Fawazil**) to the central treasury; the grant was strictly non-hereditary and subject to frequent transfer (NCERT).

• Under **Balban**, a central accountant (**Khwaja**) was appointed alongside every *Muqti* to audit actual income and expenditure.

• Under **Alauddin Khalji**, large *Khalisa* (crown) lands in the Doab were brought under direct state collection to pay the standing army in cash, while the accounts of *Muqtis* were strictly audited by the *Diwan-i-Wizarat*.

• Under **Firoz Shah Tughlaq**, the *Iqta* was made **hereditary** (passing to sons, sons-in-law, and even slaves), weakening central control (UPSC).

Sultanate Architectural Feature / Term	Technical Meaning	Earliest / Classic Monumental Example	Reigning Sultan	Official Source
Corbelled (Trabeate) Arch vs. True (Arcuate) Arch	Horizontal stone beam brackets (*Kadalika-karana*) vs. wedge-shaped **Voussoirs** locked by a central **Keystone**	*Quwwat-ul-Islam* screen (Corbelled) vs. **Tomb of Balban** (1st True Arch) & **Alai Darwaza** (True Arch + Dome)	Qutbuddin Aibak, Balban, Alauddin Khalji	ASI
Arabesque, Pietra Dura & Calligraphic Kufic/Naskh	Geometric vegetal scroll-work & Quranic stone inscriptions	Qutb Minar fluted red sandstone & marble bands (completed by Iltutmish; 5th storey repaired by Firoz Shah Tughlaq)	Aibak, Iltutmish, Firoz Shah Tughlaq	ASI
Battered (Sloping) Walls & Octagonal Tombs	Thick inward-sloping rubble masonry walls for structural strength	**Tomb of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq** (Tughlaqabad) & **Khan-i-Jahan Telangani Tomb** (first octagonal tomb in Delhi)	Ghiyasuddin & Firoz Shah Tughlaq	National Museum
Khalisa, Iqta, Inam / Idrar / Milk	Crown land, transferable military assignment, and tax-free religious/charitable grants	Confiscated under Alauddin Khalji; restored and expanded under Firoz Shah Tughlaq	Delhi Sultanate Fiscal System	IUC Academy

• **Four Pillars of the Central Sultanate Ministry:** (1) **Diwan-i-Wizarat** (headed by the **Wazir**, overseeing revenue, audit *Mushrif-i-Mamalik* and *Mustaufi-i-Mamalik*); (2) **Diwan-i-Arz** (headed by **Ariz-i-Mamalik**, military recruitment and *Dagh-Chehra*); (3) **Diwan-i-Insha** (headed by **Dabir-i-Mamalik**, state correspondence); and (4) **Diwan-i-Risalat** (religious endowments and foreign/diplomatic appeals, alongside the **Sadr-us-Sudur** and **Qazi-ul-Quzzat**) (NCERT).

• **Amir Khusrau's Literary and Musical Milestones:** Composed five historical *Masnavis* — **Qiran-us-Sa'dain** (meeting of Bughra Khan and Kaiqubad), **Miftah-ul-Futuh** (Jalaluddin Khalji's victories), **Khazain-ul-Futuh / Tarikh-i-Alai** (Alauddin's campaigns in prose), **Ashiqa** (love story of Khizr Khan and Deval Rani), and **Nuh Sipihr** ('Nine Skies', praising India's climate, Sanskrit, decimal numbers, and chess) — plus **Tughlaqnama** (Indian Culture Portal).

• **Mongol Frontier Defense Line:** Balban and Alauddin Khalji fortified the north-western frontier posts of **Dipalpur, Samana, Multan, and Sunam** under veteran warden-generals like **Ghazi Malik (Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq)** and **Zafar Khan** (NCERT).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Foundation of Mamluk Rule by Qutbuddin Aibak (1206 CE) & Iltutmish's Iqta, Tanka-Jital & Chahalgani Consolidation

STEP 2
Balban's Liquidation of Chahalgani, Zill-i-Ilahi Kingship & Diwan-i-Arz Military Centralization (1266–1287 CE)

STEP 3
Khalji Revolution (1290 CE) & Alauddin Khalji's North Indian Annexations + Malik Kafur's Deccan Tributary Campaigns

STEP 4
Alauddin's Masahat (50% Kharaj), Dagh-Chehra Standing Army & Diwan-i-Riyasat Market Price Controls

Sultanate Ruler	Reign	Newly Created Department / Institution	Key Administrative, Fiscal, or Architectural Achievement	Official Reference
Qutbuddin Aibak	1206–1210 CE	Founder of Mamluk Rule (Lahore)	Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque, Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra, Qutb Minar basement; patronized Hasan Nizami (*Taj-ul-Ma'asir*)	ASI
Shamsuddin Iltutmish	1210–1236 CE	**Iqta System** & **Turkan-i-Chahalgani**	Silver *Tanka* & Copper *Jital*; completed Qutb Minar (4 storeys), built *Hauz-i-Shamsi* & *Sultan Ghari* (first Islamic mausoleum in India)	ASI
Ghiyasuddin Balban	1266–1287 CE	**Diwan-i-Arz** (Military Dept) & *Barids*	Destroyed *Chahalgani*; *Sijda*, *Paibos*, *Nauroz*; Tomb of Balban (Mehrauli — **first true arch** in India)	National Museum
Alauddin Khalji	1296–1316 CE	**Diwan-i-Riyasat** (Markets) & **Diwan-i-Mustakhraj** (Arrears)	*Dagh & Chehra*; *Masahat* (50% Kharaj); built **Alai Darwaza**, **Siri Fort**, *Hauz Khas*, & *Jamat Khana Mosque*	ASI
Qutbuddin Mubarak Shah Khalji	1316–1320 CE	Abolished Market Regulations	Only Delhi Sultan to declare himself **Caliph** (*Al-Wathiq Billah* / *Khalifatullah*) on his coins	UPSC

Did You Know?: The **Alai Darwaza** (1311 CE, southern gateway to the Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque complex built by Alauddin Khalji) is the **first surviving monument in India to employ true Islamic architectural principles** of the **true pointed horseshoe arch** (with spearhead *fringe*/*lotus-bud* intrados) and **true dome on squinches**, constructed in alternating red sandstone and white marble (ASI).

Exam Trap Alert: Alauddin Khalji was the **first Sultan of Delhi** to order the systematic measurement of cultivable land (**Masahat**) and collect land revenue directly at **50% of produce**, and he explicitly separated religion (*Sharia*) from statecraft (telling Qazi Mughisuddin of Bayana that he decreed whatever was best for the state without waiting for clerical sanction) — yet he **never abolished the Caliphate's symbolic title** on coins; it was his son **Qutbuddin Mubarak Shah Khalji** who declared himself the Caliph (UPSC).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the chronological order of the four Deccan campaigns led by **Malik Kafur** under Alauddin Khalji using **"D-W-D-M"** — **D**evagiri (Yadavas, 1307) -> **W**arangal (Kakatiyas, 1309–10) -> **D**warasamudra (Hoysalas, 1310–11) -> **M**adurai (Pandyas, 1311) (IUC Academy).

Chapter 2 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
The Mamluk / Ilbari (Slave) Dynasty (1206–1290 CE)	**Qutbuddin Aibak (1206–1210 CE)**	Former Turkic slave of Muhammad Ghori who ruled from **Lahore**, earned the title **Lakh Bakhsh** ("Giver of Lakhs"), commissioned the **Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque** (Delhi) and **Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra** (Ajmer), and laid the basement storey of the **Qutb Minar** in honour of Chishti Sufi saint **Khwaja Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki**, before dying at Lahore in 1210 while playing **Chaugan** (horse-polo) (ASI).
The Khalji Revolution and Alauddin Khalji's Imperial Reforms (1290–1320 CE)	**Raziya Sultan (1236–1240 CE)**	First and only female ruler of the Delhi Sultanate; discarded female attire (*Purdah*), held open court in tunic (*Qaba*) and headdress (*Kulah*), and appointed Abyssinian noble **Jamaluddin Yaqut** as *Amir-i-Akhur* (Master of the Royal Stables), provoking a rebellion by the *Chahalgani* led by **Malik Altunia** of Bathinda. Chronicler **Minhaj-i-Siraj** (*Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*) acknowledged she possessed every kingly virtue except her gender (NCERT).
Evolution of the Iqta System, Coinage Reforms, and Early Indo-Islamic Architecture	**Ghiyasuddin Balban (1266–1287 CE — *Ulugh Khan*)**	**Served as *Naib-i-Mamlakat* (Regent) under Sultan Nasiruddin Mahmud (1246–1266 CE) before ascending the throne. Balban** liquidated the Turkan-i-Chahalgani**, propounded a Persianate theory of divine kingship (**Zill-i-Ilahi — **"Shadow of God on Earth" and** Niyabat-i-Khudai — **"Vicegerent of God"), enforced the court rituals of** Sijda **(prostration) and** Paibos **(kissing the monarch's feet) along with the Persian festival of** Nauroz**, established the central military department** Diwan-i-Arz **and an intelligence network of** Barids **(spies), and pursued the policy of** "Blood and Iron"** to clear the Mewati and Katehar forests (NCERT).
The Mamluk / Ilbari (Slave) Dynasty (1206–1290 CE)	**Jalaluddin Khalji (1290–1296 CE)**	Ended the Ilbari Turkic monopoly on power, advocating a benevolent state policy before being assassinated at Kara (near Prayagraj) by his nephew and son-in-law **Alauddin Khalji** (Ali Gurshasp) after Alauddin's daring raid on **Devagiri** (NCERT).
The Khalji Revolution and Alauddin Khalji's Imperial Reforms (1290–1320 CE)	**Alauddin Khalji (1296–1316 CE) — Imperial Expansion and Mongol Defense**	Repelled six fierce Chagatai Mongol invasions (at Jaran-Manjur, Sivistan, Kili, Delhi, Amroha, and Ravi). Conquered **Gujarat (1299 CE)** (where general Nusrat Khan acquired **Malik Kafur Hazardinari** at Cambay), **Ranthambore (1301 CE)** (against Hammiradeva), **Chittor (1303 CE)** (against Rawal Ratan Singh, accompanied by poet **Amir Khusrau**), and **Malwa (1305 CE)**. For the Deccan, Alauddin dispatched **Malik Kafur** against four kingdoms to extract tribute rather than direct annexation: **Yadavas of Devagiri** (Ramachandra), **Kakatiyas of Warangal** (Prataparudra II), **Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra** (Vira Ballala III), and **Pandyas of Madurai** (Vira and Sundara Pandya) (Indian Culture Portal).
Evolution of the Iqta System, Coinage Reforms, and Early Indo-Islamic Architecture	**Issued Four Ordinances to prevent noble rebellions**	confiscated religious/free land grants (*Inam*/*Milk*/*Waqf*), reorganized the intelligence system (*Barids* & *Munhiyans*), banned wine/intoxicants in Delhi, and prohibited inter-marriages and private banquets among nobles without royal permission.
The Mamluk / Ilbari (Slave) Dynasty (1206–1290 CE)	**Structural Evolution of the Iqta System**	Derived from Seljuq West Asian administration, an **Iqta** was a transferable territorial revenue assignment granted to military commanders (**Muqtis / Walis**):

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
The Khalji Revolution and Alauddin Khalji's Imperial Reforms (1290–1320 CE)	**Four Pillars of the Central Sultanate Ministry**	(1) **Diwan-i-Wizarat** (headed by the **Wazir**, overseeing revenue, audit *Mushrif-i-Mamalik* and *Mustaufi-i-Mamalik*); (2) **Diwan-i-Arz** (headed by **Ariz-i-Mamalik**, military recruitment and *Dagh-Chehra*); (3) **Diwan-i-Insha** (headed by **Dabir-i-Mamalik**, state correspondence); and (4) **Diwan-i-Risalat** (religious endowments and foreign/diplomatic appeals, alongside the **Sadr-us-Sudur** and **Qazi-ul-Quzzat**) (NCERT).
Evolution of the Iqta System, Coinage Reforms, and Early Indo-Islamic Architecture	**Amir Khusrau's Literary and Musical Milestones**	Composed five historical *Masnavis* — **Qiran-us-Sa'dain** (meeting of Bughra Khan and Kaiqubad), **Miftah-ul-Futuh** (Jalaluddin Khalji's victories), **Khazain-ul-Futuh / Tarikh-i-Alai** (Alauddin's campaigns in prose), **Ashiqa** (love story of Khizr Khan and Deval Rani), and **Nuh Sipihr** ('Nine Skies', praising India's climate, Sanskrit, decimal numbers, and chess) — plus **Tughlaqnama** (Indian Culture Portal).
The Mamluk / Ilbari (Slave) Dynasty (1206–1290 CE)	**Mongol Frontier Defense Line**	Balban and Alauddin Khalji fortified the north-western frontier posts of **Dipalpur, Samana, Multan, and Sunam** under veteran warden-generals like **Ghazi Malik (Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq)** and **Zafar Khan** (NCERT).

Chapter *2* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Qutbuddin Aibak (1206–1210 CE)): Former Turkic slave of Muhammad Ghori who ruled from **Lahore**, earned the title **Lakh Bakhsh** ("Giver of Lakhs"), commissioned the **Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque** (Delhi) and **Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra** (Ajmer), and laid the basement storey of the **Qutb Minar** in honour of Chishti Sufi saint **Khwaja Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki**, before dying at Lahore in 1210 while playing **Chaugan** (horse-polo) (ASI).

Statement-II (Raziya Sultan (1236–1240 CE)): First and only female ruler of the Delhi Sultanate; discarded female attire (*Purdah*), held open court in tunic (*Qaba*) and headdress (*Kulah*), and appointed Abyssinian noble **Jamaluddin Yaqut** as *Amir-i-Akhur* (Master of the Royal Stables), provoking a rebellion by the *Chahalgani* led by **Malik Altunia** of Bathinda. Chronicler **Minhaj-i-Siraj** (*Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*) acknowledged she possessed every kingly virtue except her gender (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Ghiyasuddin Balban (1266–1287 CE — *Ulugh Khan*)): Served as *Naib-i-Mamlakat* (Regent) under Sultan Nasiruddin Mahmud (1246–1266 CE) before ascending the throne. Balban liquidated the Turkan-i-Chahalgani**, propounded a Persianate theory of divine kingship (**Zill-i-Ilahi — **"Shadow of God on Earth" and** Niyabat-i-Khudai — **"Vicegerent of God"), enforced the court rituals of** Sijda **(prostration) and** Paibos **(kissing the monarch's feet) along with the Persian festival of** Nauroz**, established the central military department** Diwan-i-Arz **and an intelligence network of** Barids **(spies), and pursued the policy of** "Blood and Iron"** to clear the Mewati and Katehar forests (NCERT).

Statement-II (Jalaluddin Khalji (1290–1296 CE)): Ended the Ilbari Turkic monopoly on power, advocating a benevolent state policy before being assassinated at Kara (near Prayagraj) by his nephew and son-in-law **Alauddin Khalji** (Ali Gurshasp) after Alauddin's daring raid on **Devagiri** (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Alauddin Khalji (1296–1316 CE) — Imperial Expansion and Mongol Defense): Repelled six fierce Chagatai Mongol invasions (at Jaran-Manjur, Sivistan, Kili, Delhi, Amroha, and Ravi). Conquered **Gujarat (1299 CE)** (where general Nusrat Khan acquired **Malik Kafur Hazardinari** at Cambay), **Ranthambore (1301 CE)** (against Hammiradeva), **Chittor (1303 CE)** (against Rawal Ratan Singh, accompanied by poet **Amir Khusrau**), and **Malwa (1305 CE)**. For the Deccan, Alauddin dispatched **Malik Kafur** against four kingdoms to extract tribute rather than direct annexation: **Yadavas of Devagiri** (Ramachandra), **Kakatiyas of Warangal** (Prataparudra II), **Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra** (Vira Ballala III), and **Pandyas of Madurai** (Vira and Sundara Pandya) (Indian Culture Portal).

Statement-II (Issued Four Ordinances to prevent noble rebellions): confiscated religious/free land grants (*Inam*/*Milk*/*Waqf*), reorganized the intelligence system (*Barids* & *Munhiyans*), banned wine/intoxicants in Delhi, and prohibited inter-marriages and private banquets among nobles without royal permission.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Structural Evolution of the Iqta System): Derived from Seljuq West Asian administration, an **Iqta** was a transferable territorial revenue assignment granted to military commanders (**Muqtis / Walis**):

Statement-II (Four Pillars of the Central Sultanate Ministry): (1) **Diwan-i-Wizarat** (headed by the **Wazir**, overseeing revenue, audit *Mushrif-i-Mamalik* and *Mustaufi-i-Mamalik*); (2) **Diwan-i-Arz** (headed by **Ariz-i-Mamalik**, military recruitment and *Dagh-Chehra*); (3) **Diwan-i-Insha** (headed by **Dabir-i-Mamalik**, state correspondence); and (4) **Diwan-i-Risalat** (religious endowments and foreign/diplomatic appeals, alongside the **Sadr-us-Sudur** and **Qazi-ul-Quzzat**) (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Amir Khusrau's Literary and Musical Milestones): Composed five historical *Masnavis* — **Qiran-us-Sa'dain** (meeting of Bughra Khan and Kaiqubad), **Miftah-ul-Futuh** (Jalaluddin Khalji's victories), **Khazain-ul-Futuh / Tarikh-i-Alai** (Alauddin's campaigns in prose), **Ashiqa** (love story of Khizr Khan and Deval Rani), and **Nuh Sipihr** ('Nine Skies', praising India's climate, Sanskrit, decimal numbers, and chess) — plus **Tughlaqnama** (Indian Culture Portal).

Statement-II (Mongol Frontier Defense Line): Balban and Alauddin Khalji fortified the north-western frontier posts of **Dipalpur, Samana, Multan, and Sunam** under veteran warden-generals like **Ghazi Malik (Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq)** and **Zafar Khan** (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *3:* The Delhi Sultanate II — Tughlaq, Sayyid & Lodi Dynasties, Iqta System & Sultanate Architecture

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 3: The Delhi Sultanate II — Tughlaq, Sayyid & Lodi Dynasties, Iqta System & Sultanate Architecture

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3
The Tughlaq Dynasty (1320–1414 CE)	**The Sayyid (1414–1451 CE) and Lodi (1451–1526 CE) Dynasties**	**Sultanate Historiography, Technological Innovations, and Provincial Architectural Schools**

3.1 The Tughlaq Dynasty *(1320–1414* CE*)*

• **Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq (Ghazi Malik, 1320–1325 CE):** Founded the dynasty and built the fortified city of **Tughlaqabad** (characterised by battered sloping walls). He moderated Alauddin's harsh fiscal rate (limiting revenue enhancements to 1/10th or 1/11th per year), **was the first Sultan to dig state irrigation canals**, and organized the rapid horse-and-foot postal relay system (**Dak Chowki** described by Ibn Battuta). After his son **Jauna Khan (Ulugh Khan)** annexed Warangal (renamed **Sultanpur**) and raided Jajnagar (Odisha), Ghiyasuddin died in 1325 when a wooden pavilion collapsed at Afghanpur (NCERT).

• **Muhammad bin Tughlaq (1325–1351 CE) — Five Ambitious Experiments:** A brilliant scholar of logic, astronomy, mathematics, medicine, and calligraphy (who celebrated **Holi**, conversed with Jaina scholar **Jinaprabha Suri** and Rajasekhara, and appointed Moroccan traveller **Ibn Battuta** — author of the Arabic *Rihla* — as **Qazi of Delhi** in 1333 and ambassador to China in 1342):

1. **Taxation in the Doab (1326–27):** Raised revenue assessment in the Ganga-Yamuna Doab alongside *Abwabs* (*Ghari* and *Charai*) during a severe famine; later established the agricultural loan department **Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi** distributing **Sondhar / Takkavi** crop-rotation loans (barley to wheat, wheat to sugarcane, sugarcane to grapes/dates) (NCERT).

2. **Transfer of Capital (1327):** Ordered the royal court and elite population of Delhi to move to **Devagiri (renamed Daulatabad)** in Maharashtra for central geopolitical control, before permitting their return due to northern frontier security and water shortages.

3. **Token Currency (1329–30):** Inspired by **Kublai Khan's** paper money (*Chao*) in China and Gai-Khatu in Persia, he issued **bronze/copper token coins (*Tanka*)** at par with the silver Tanka; failed due to lack of a royal mint seal preventing mass household counterfeiting (described by Barani).

4. **Khurasan Expedition** (recruited 370,000 troops, disbanded after a year) and **Qarachil (Kumaon-Garhwal) Expedition** (UPSC).

• **Firoz Shah Tughlaq (1351–1388 CE):**

• Made both the **Iqta assignments and military posts hereditary**, revived the *Jagir* system for nobles, and turned the **Diwan-i-Bandagan** into a department managing **180,000 royal slaves**.

• Constructed a major network of **five irrigation canals** (including the 150-mile Rajwah from the Yamuna to Hisar and the Ulughkhani from the Sutlej to Hansi), levying an irrigation tax called **Haqq-i-Sharb (10% of produce)** with clerical approval, while abolishing 23 non-Sharia *Abwabs* and retaining only **Kharaj, Khams, Jizya (imposed for the first time separately on Brahmanas), and Zakat** (NCERT).

• Established **Diwan-i-Khairat** (charity bureau for marriage of poor girls), **Dar-ul-Shafa** (free state hospital), an employment bureau, and founded the towns of **Firozabad (Firoz Shah Kotla), Fatehabad, Hisar, Firozpur, and Jaunpur** (in memory of cousin *Jauna Khan* / Muhammad bin Tughlaq). He also transported two **Ashokan Pillars** from **Topra (Haryana)** and **Meerut (UP)** to Delhi and authored his autobiography **Futuhat-i-Firozshahi**. In **1398 CE**, during the reign of the last Tughlaq ruler **Nasiruddin Mahmud**, Central Asian conqueror **Timur (Tamerlane)** sacked Delhi (ASI).

3.2 The Sayyid *(1414–1451* CE*)* and Lodi *(1451–1526* CE*)* Dynasties

• **Sayyid Dynasty:** Founded by **Khizr Khan** (who ruled as *Rayat-i-Ala* / viceroy of Timur's son Shah Rukh); succeeded by **Mubarak Shah** (patron of **Yahya bin Ahmad Sirhindi**, author of *Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi*), Muhammad Shah, and Alam Shah (NCERT).

• **Lodi Dynasty (First Afghan Dynasty of Delhi):**

• **Bahlul Lodi (1451–1489 CE):** Treated Afghan nobles as equals (sitting on a carpet alongside them as *Masnad-i-Ali*), annexed the **Sharqi Sultanate of Jaunpur**, and issued copper-silver billon **Bahloli coins**.

• **Sikandar Lodi (1489–1517 CE — *Nizam Khan*):** Greatest Lodi ruler; founded **Agra in 1504 CE** (shifting the capital there in 1506), introduced the **32-digit measurement yard *Gaz-i-Sikandari*** for agricultural land survey, abolished internal octroi duties on foodgrains, composed Persian poetry under the pen-name **Gulrukhi**, and commissioned the Persian medical treatise **Farhang-i-Sikandari** (translation of Ayurveda by Mian Bhua) and the musicological treatise **Lahjat-i-Sikandar Shahi**.

• **Ibrahim Lodi (1517–1526 CE):** Defeated by **Rana Sanga of Mewar** at the **Battle of Khatoli (1517–18)**; alienated Afghan nobles (**Daulat Khan Lodi** of Punjab and **Alam Khan Lodi**), leading to his defeat and death in the battlefield against **Babur** at the **First Battle of Panipat (21 April 1526)** (NCERT).

3.3 Sultanate Historiography, Technological Innovations, and Provincial Architectural Schools

• **Technological Innovations Introduced During the Sultanate Era:** (1) The **Persian Wheel (*Araghatta* fitted with gearing mechanism and pin-drum — *Saqiya*)** for deep-well lift irrigation; (2) the **Spinning Wheel (*Charkha*)** and **Bow-String Carder (*Naddaf* / *Pinjana*)** revolutionizing cotton textile output; (3) **Paper manufacturing** and bookbinding; (4) **Lime-mortar (*Chuna-Surkhi*)** for waterproof vaulted domes; (5) **Iron stirrups (*Rikab*)** and nailed horseshoes (*Na'l*); and (6) **Tin-coating (*Qala'i*)** of copper cooking vessels (NCERT).

• **Regional Indo-Islamic Architectural Styles (14th–16th Century): Jaunpur (Sharqi Style)** — characterized by massive sloping pylons (*Propylaea*) and complete **absence of minarets**, as seen in the **Atala Masjid** and **Jami Masjid** built by Ibrahim Shah Sharqi; **Mandu (Malwa Style)** — **Jahaz Mahal**, **Hindola Mahal** (sloping T-plan), **Hoshang Shah's Tomb** (first complete marble mausoleum in India), and **Baz Bahadur & Rani Roopmati Pavilions**; **Bengal Style** — curved **Bangla sloping roofs**, terracotta brick tiles, and **Adina Masjid (Pandua)**, **Dakhil Darwaza**, and **Qadam Rasul** at Gaur; and **Gujarat Style** — **Jami Masjid at Ahmedabad** (by Ahmad Shah I, 1423) and **Champaner-Pavagadh** (by Mahmud Begarha) (ASI).

Medieval Historian	Primary Persian / Arabic Work	Patron Sultan / Period	Key Historical Focus	Official Source
Hasan Nizami & Fakhr-i-Mudabbir	*Taj-ul-Ma'asir* / *Adab-ul-Harb wa-sh-Shuja'at*	Qutbuddin Aibak & Iltutmish	First official chronicle of the Delhi Sultanate / Treatise on art of war & kingship	Indian Culture Portal
Ziauddin Barani	**Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi** & **Fatawa-i-Jahandari**	Muhammad bin Tughlaq & Firoz Shah Tughlaq	Covers Balban (1266) to 6th year of Firoz Shah (1357); political theory of *Zawabit* (state laws)	NCERT

Medieval Historian	Primary Persian / Arabic Work	Patron Sultan / Period	Key Historical Focus	Official Source
Shams-i-Siraj Afif & Isami	*Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi* (90 *Muqaddamas*) / **Futuh-us-Salatin** (1350)	Firoz Shah Tughlaq / Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah	Detailed account of Firoz Shah's canals, *Ashokan pillars*, & workshops (*Karkhanas*) / Verse history dedicated to Bahmani founder	UPSC
Yahya bin Ahmad Sirhindi	**Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi**	Mubarak Shah Sayyid (15th Century)	Primary contemporary chronicle for the **Sayyid Dynasty**	IUC Academy

• **Royal Karkhanas (State Workshops) under Firoz Shah Tughlaq:** Managed by a noble of *Malik* rank with a general superintendent (*Mutasarrif*), partitioned into **Ratibi** (workshops with fixed annual grants, such as royal stables, kitchens, and kennels) and **Ghair-Ratibi** (manufacturing fine silk robes *Khilat*, gold brocade, carpets, and weaponry using skilled slave artisans) (NCERT).

• **Islamic Taxation Categories under Firoz Shah Tughlaq:** Restricted strictly to four Quranic taxes: (1) **Kharaj** (land tax from non-Muslims, 1/5th to 1/3rd), (2) **Zakat** (2.5% religious alms tax on wealthy Muslims), (3) **Jizya** (graduated per-capita poll tax on non-Muslims *Zimmis* at 40, 20, and 10 Tankas, extended by Firoz Shah to Brahmanas), and (4) **Khams** (1/5th state share of war booty, though Alauddin and Muhammad bin Tughlaq had taken 4/5ths for the state) (UPSC).

• **Independent Provincial Sultanates (14th–15th Century): Ilyas Shahi & Husain Shahi Dynasties of Bengal** (Alauddin Husain Shah and Nusrat Shah patronized Bengali translations of the *Mahabharata* and *Bhagavata* by Maladhar Basu); **Muzaffarid Dynasty of Gujarat** (**Ahmad Shah I** founded Ahmedabad in 1411; **Mahmud Begarha** conquered Girnar and Champaner); and **Zain-ul-Abidin (1420–1470 CE) of Kashmir**, celebrated as **'Bud Shah'** and the **'Akbar of Kashmir'** for abolishing *Jizya*, banning cow slaughter, building **Zaina Lank** in Wular Lake, and having the *Mahabharata* and *Rajatarangini* translated into Persian (NCERT).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq's Canal Initiation & Muhammad bin Tughlaq's Centralization Experiments (1320–1351 CE)

STEP 2
Southern Breakaway States (Vijayanagara 1336 CE & Bahmani 1347 CE) + Firoz Shah's Hereditary Iqta & Welfare Institutions

STEP 3
Timur's Invasion of Delhi (1398 CE) & Transition to Sayyid Rule (1414–1451 CE)

STEP 4
First Afghan Lodi Empire (Bahlul, Sikandar's 1504 Agra Capital & Gaz-i-Sikandari, Ibrahim's Fall at Panipat 1526)

Central Sultanate Department	Arabic / Persian Title	Founder / Reigning Sultan	Core Administrative Jurisdiction	Official Reference
Department of Correspondence	**Diwan-i-Insha**	Established from early Mamluk period	Drafted royal *Farmans* and state correspondence under *Dabir-i-Khas*	NCERT
Department of Military Affairs	**Diwan-i-Arz**	**Ghiyasuddin Balban** (Expanded by Alauddin)	Recruitment, muster rolls (*Chehra*), horse branding (*Dagh*), headed by *Ariz-i-Mamalik*	NCERT

Central Sultanate Department	Arabic / Persian Title	Founder / Reigning Sultan	Core Administrative Jurisdiction	Official Reference
Department of Market Control / Revenue Arrears	**Diwan-i-Riyasat** & **Diwan-i-Mustakhraj**	**Alauddin Khalji**	Price regulation & merchant registration / Recovery of unpaid revenue balances from collectors	UPSC
Department of Agriculture	**Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi**	**Muhammad bin Tughlaq**	Extension of cultivation, model farms, and *Sondhar* / *Takkavi* loans	NCERT
Departments of Slaves, Charity & Pensions	**Diwan-i-Bandagan, Diwan-i-Khairat, Diwan-i-Istihqaq**	**Firoz Shah Tughlaq**	Administration of 180,000 slaves, marriage assistance for poor women, and state stipends	Indian Culture Portal

Did You Know?: The **Lodi Gardens** in New Delhi preserve the architectural innovation of the **Double Dome** (an inner ceiling dome and a taller outer dome separated by a hollow void to maintain interior height proportions while elevating exterior grandeur), seen notably in the **Tomb of Sikandar Lodi (1517 CE)** and the **Moth Ki Masjid** built by Sikandar Lodi's prime minister **Mian Bhua** (ASI).

Exam Trap Alert: While **Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq** was the **first Sultan to initiate canal digging**, it was **Firoz Shah Tughlaq** who constructed the **largest network of five major irrigation canals** and levied the **10% irrigation tax (*Haqq-i-Sharb*)**. Also note that **Ibrahim Lodi** was the **only Sultan of Delhi to die on the battlefield** (at the First Battle of Panipat in 1526) (UPSC).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the chronological order of the five Delhi Sultanate dynasties (1206–1526 CE) and their founders using **"S-K-T-S-L"** — **S**lave/Mamluk (Qutbuddin Aibak) -> **K**halji (Jalaluddin Khalji) -> **T**ughlaq (Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq) -> **S**ayyid (Khizr Khan) -> **L**odi (Bahlul Lodi) (IUC Academy).

Chapter *3* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
The Tughlaq Dynasty (1320–1414 CE)	**Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq (Ghazi Malik, 1320–1325 CE)**	Founded the dynasty and built the fortified city of **Tughlaqabad** (characterised by battered sloping walls). He moderated Alauddin's harsh fiscal rate (limiting revenue enhancements to 1/10th or 1/11th per year), **was the first Sultan to dig state irrigation canals**, and organized the rapid horse-and-foot postal relay system (**Dak Chowki** described by Ibn Battuta). After his son **Jauna Khan (Ulugh Khan)** annexed Warangal (renamed **Sultanpur**) and raided Jajnagar (Odisha), Ghiyasuddin died in 1325 when a wooden pavilion collapsed at Afghanpur (NCERT).
The Sayyid (1414–1451 CE) and Lodi (1451–1526 CE) Dynasties	**Muhammad bin Tughlaq (1325–1351 CE) — Five Ambitious Experiments**	A brilliant scholar of logic, astronomy, mathematics, medicine, and calligraphy (who celebrated **Holi**, conversed with Jaina scholar **Jinaprabha Suri** and Rajasekhara, and appointed Moroccan traveller **Ibn Battuta** — author of the Arabic *Rihla* — as **Qazi of Delhi** in 1333 and ambassador to China in 1342):

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Sultanate Historiography, Technological Innovations, and Provincial Architectural Schools	**Taxation in the Doab (1326–27)**	Raised revenue assessment in the Ganga-Yamuna Doab alongside *Abwabs* (*Ghari* and *Charai*) during a severe famine; later established the agricultural loan department **Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi** distributing **Sondhar / Takkavi** crop-rotation loans (barley to wheat, wheat to sugarcane, sugarcane to grapes/ dates) (NCERT).
The Tughlaq Dynasty (1320–1414 CE)	**Transfer of Capital (1327)**	Ordered the royal court and elite population of Delhi to move to **Devagiri (renamed Daulatabad)** in Maharashtra for central geopolitical control, before permitting their return due to northern frontier security and water shortages.
The Sayyid (1414–1451 CE) and Lodi (1451–1526 CE) Dynasties	**Token Currency (1329–30)**	Inspired by **Kublai Khan's** paper money (*Chao*) in China and Gai-Khatu in Persia, he issued **bronze/copper token coins (*Tanka*)** at par with the silver Tanka; failed due to lack of a royal mint seal preventing mass household counterfeiting (described by Barani).
Sultanate Historiography, Technological Innovations, and Provincial Architectural Schools	**Khurasan Expedition**	(recruited 370,000 troops, disbanded after a year) and **Qarachil (Kumaon-Garhwal) Expedition** (UPSC).
The Tughlaq Dynasty (1320–1414 CE)	**Sayyid Dynasty**	Founded by **Khizr Khan** (who ruled as *Rayat-i-Ala* / viceroy of Timur's son Shah Rukh); succeeded by **Mubarak Shah** (patron of **Yahya bin Ahmad Sirhindi**, author of *Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi*), Muhammad Shah, and Alam Shah (NCERT).
The Sayyid (1414–1451 CE) and Lodi (1451–1526 CE) Dynasties	**Bahlul Lodi (1451–1489 CE)**	Treated Afghan nobles as equals (sitting on a carpet alongside them as *Masnad-i-Ali*), annexed the **Sharqi Sultanate of Jaunpur**, and issued copper-silver billon **Bahloli coins**.
Sultanate Historiography, Technological Innovations, and Provincial Architectural Schools	**Sikandar Lodi (1489–1517 CE — *Nizam Khan*)**	**Greatest Lodi ruler; founded** Agra in 1504 CE **(shifting the capital there in 1506), introduced the** 32-digit measurement yard *Gaz-i-Sikandari* **for agricultural land survey, abolished internal octroi duties on foodgrains, composed Persian poetry under the pen-name** Gulrukhi**, and commissioned the Persian medical treatise** Farhang-i-Sikandari **(translation of Ayurveda by Mian Bhua) and the musicological treatise** Lahjat-i-Sikandar Shahi**.
The Tughlaq Dynasty (1320–1414 CE)	**Ibrahim Lodi (1517–1526 CE)**	Defeated by **Rana Sanga of Mewar** at the **Battle of Khatoli (1517–18)**; alienated Afghan nobles (**Daulat Khan Lodi** of Punjab and **Alam Khan Lodi**), leading to his defeat and death in the battlefield against **Babur** at the **First Battle of Panipat (21 April 1526)** (NCERT).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
The Sayyid (1414–1451 CE) and Lodi (1451–1526 CE) Dynasties	**Technological Innovations Introduced During the Sultanate Era**	(1) The **Persian Wheel (*Araghatta* fitted with gearing mechanism and pin-drum — *Saqiya*)** for deep-well lift irrigation; (2) the **Spinning Wheel (*Charkha*)** and **Bow-String Carder (*Naddaf* / *Pinjana*)** revolutionizing cotton textile output; (3) **Paper manufacturing** and bookbinding; (4) **Lime-mortar (*Chuna-Surkhi*)** for waterproof vaulted domes; (5) **Iron stirrups (*Rikab*)** and nailed horseshoes (*Na'l*); and (6) **Tin-coating (*Qala'i*)** of copper cooking vessels (NCERT).
Sultanate Historiography, Technological Innovations, and Provincial Architectural Schools	**Regional Indo-Islamic Architectural Styles (14th–16th Century)**	**Jaunpur (Sharqi Style)** — characterized by massive sloping pylons (*Propylaea*) and complete **absence of minarets**, as seen in the **Atala Masjid** and **Jami Masjid** built by Ibrahim Shah Sharqi; **Mandu (Malwa Style)** — **Jahaz Mahal**, **Hindola Mahal** (sloping T-plan), **Hoshang Shah's Tomb** (first complete marble mausoleum in India), and **Baz Bahadur & Rani Roopmati Pavilions**; **Bengal Style** — curved **Bangla sloping roofs**, terracotta brick tiles, and **Adina Masjid (Pandua)**, **Dakhil Darwaza**, and **Qadam Rasul** at Gaur; and **Gujarat Style** — **Jami Masjid at Ahmedabad** (by Ahmad Shah I, 1423) and **Champaner-Pavagadh** (by Mahmud Begarha) (ASI).
The Tughlaq Dynasty (1320–1414 CE)	**Royal Karkhanas (State Workshops) under Firoz Shah Tughlaq**	Managed by a noble of *Malik* rank with a general superintendent (*Mutasarrif*), partitioned into **Ratibi** (workshops with fixed annual grants, such as royal stables, kitchens, and kennels) and **Ghair-Ratibi** (manufacturing fine silk robes *Khilat*, gold brocade, carpets, and weaponry using skilled slave artisans) (NCERT).
The Sayyid (1414–1451 CE) and Lodi (1451–1526 CE) Dynasties	**Islamic Taxation Categories under Firoz Shah Tughlaq**	Restricted strictly to four Quranic taxes: (1) **Kharaj** (land tax from non-Muslims, 1/5th to 1/3rd), (2) **Zakat** (2.5% religious alms tax on wealthy Muslims), (3) **Jizya** (graduated per-capita poll tax on non-Muslims *Zimmis* at 40, 20, and 10 Tankas, extended by Firoz Shah to Brahmanas), and (4) **Khams** (1/5th state share of war booty, though Alauddin and Muhammad bin Tughlaq had taken 4/5ths for the state) (UPSC).

Chapter *3* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq (Ghazi Malik, 1320–1325 CE)): Founded the dynasty and built the fortified city of **Tughlaqabad** (characterised by battered sloping walls). He moderated Alauddin's harsh fiscal rate (limiting revenue enhancements to 1/10th or 1/11th per year), **was the first Sultan to dig state irrigation canals**, and organized the rapid horse-and-foot postal relay system (**Dak Chowki** described by Ibn Battuta). After his son **Jauna Khan (Ulugh Khan)** annexed Warangal (renamed **Sultanpur**) and raided Jajnagar (Odisha), Ghiyasuddin died in 1325 when a wooden pavilion collapsed at Afghanpur (NCERT).

Statement-II (Muhammad bin Tughlaq (1325–1351 CE) — Five Ambitious Experiments): A brilliant scholar of logic, astronomy, mathematics, medicine, and calligraphy (who celebrated **Holi**, conversed with Jaina scholar **Jinaprabha Suri** and Rajasekhara, and appointed Moroccan traveller **Ibn Battuta** — author of the Arabic *Rihla* — as **Qazi of Delhi** in 1333 and ambassador to China in 1342):

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Taxation in the Doab (1326–27)): Raised revenue assessment in the Ganga-Yamuna Doab alongside *Abwabs* (*Ghari* and *Charai*) during a severe famine; later established the agricultural loan department **Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi** distributing **Sondhar / Takkavi** crop-rotation loans (barley to wheat, wheat to sugarcane, sugarcane to grapes/dates) (NCERT).

Statement-II (Transfer of Capital (1327)): Ordered the royal court and elite population of Delhi to move to **Devagiri (renamed Daulatabad)** in Maharashtra for central geopolitical control, before permitting their return due to northern frontier security and water shortages.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Token Currency (1329–30)): Inspired by **Kublai Khan's** paper money (*Chao*) in China and Gai-Khatu in Persia, he issued **bronze/copper token coins (*Tanka*)** at par with the silver Tanka; failed due to lack of a royal mint seal preventing mass household counterfeiting (described by Barani).

Statement-II (Khurasan Expedition): (recruited 370,000 troops, disbanded after a year) and **Qarachil (Kumaon-Garhwal) Expedition** (UPSC).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Sayyid Dynasty): Founded by **Khizr Khan** (who ruled as *Rayat-i-Ala* / viceroy of Timur's son Shah Rukh); succeeded by **Mubarak Shah** (patron of **Yahya bin Ahmad Sirhindi**, author of *Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi*), Muhammad Shah, and Alam Shah (NCERT).

Statement-II (Bahlul Lodi (1451–1489 CE)): Treated Afghan nobles as equals (sitting on a carpet alongside them as *Masnad-i-Ali*), annexed the **Sharqi Sultanate of Jaunpur**, and issued copper-silver billon **Bahloli coins**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Sikandar Lodi (1489–1517 CE — *Nizam Khan*)): Greatest Lodi ruler; founded Agra in 1504 CE **(shifting the capital there in 1506), introduced the** 32-digit measurement yard *Gaz-i-Sikandari* **for agricultural land survey, abolished internal octroi duties on foodgrains, composed Persian poetry under the pen-name** Gulrukhi**, and commissioned the Persian medical treatise** Farhang-i-Sikandari **(translation of Ayurveda by Mian Bhua) and the musicological treatise** Lahjat-i-Sikandar Shahi**.

Statement-II (Ibrahim Lodi (1517–1526 CE)): Defeated by **Rana Sanga of Mewar** at the **Battle of Khatoli (1517–18)**; alienated Afghan nobles (**Daulat Khan Lodi** of Punjab and **Alam Khan Lodi**), leading to his defeat and death in the battlefield against **Babur** at the **First Battle of Panipat (21 April 1526)** (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Technological Innovations Introduced During the Sultanate Era): (1) The **Persian Wheel (*Araghatta* fitted with gearing mechanism and pin-drum — *Saqiya*)** for deep-well lift irrigation; (2) the **Spinning Wheel (*Charkha*)** and **Bow-String Carder (*Naddaf* / *Pinjana*)** revolutionizing cotton textile output; (3) **Paper manufacturing** and bookbinding; (4) **Lime-mortar (*Chuna-Surkhi*)** for waterproof vaulted domes; (5) **Iron stirrups (*Rikab*)** and nailed horseshoes (*Na'l*); and (6) **Tin-coating (*Qala'i*)** of copper cooking vessels (NCERT).

Statement-II (Regional Indo-Islamic Architectural Styles (14th–16th Century)): Jaunpur (Sharqi Style) — characterized by massive sloping pylons (*Propylaea*) and complete **absence of minarets**, as seen in the **Atala Masjid** and **Jami Masjid** built by Ibrahim Shah Sharqi; **Mandu (Malwa Style)** — **Jahaz Mahal**, **Hindola Mahal** (sloping T-plan), **Hoshang Shah's Tomb** (first complete marble mausoleum in India), and **Baz Bahadur & Rani Roopmati Pavilions**; **Bengal Style** — curved **Bangla sloping roofs**, terracotta brick tiles, and **Adina Masjid (Pandua)**, **Dakhil Darwaza**, and **Qadam Rasul** at Gaur; and **Gujarat Style** — **Jami Masjid at Ahmedabad** (by Ahmad Shah I, 1423) and **Champaner-Pavagadh** (by Mahmud Begarha) (ASI).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *4:* The Vijayanagara Empire & Bahmani Sultanate — Deccan Polity, Nayankara System & Hampi Art

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 4: The Vijayanagara Empire & Bahmani Sultanate — Deccan Polity, Nayankara System & Hampi Art

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3
The Vijayanagara Empire: Four Dynasties and Krishnadevaraya (1336–1646 CE)	**Vijayanagara Administration, Hampi Architecture, and the Bahmani Sultanate**	**Vijayanagara Revenue Terminology, Social Life, and Foreign Travellers' Observations**

4.1 The Vijayanagara Empire*:* Four Dynasties and Krishnadevaraya *(1336–1646* CE*)*

• **Foundation and Four Ruling Dynasties:** Founded in **1336 CE** on the southern bank of the **Tungabhadra River** (Hampi, Karnataka) by brothers **Harihara I and Bukka I** (formerly in the service of Kampili/Kakatiyas) under the spiritual guidance of saint **Vidyaranya** and Vedic commentator **Sayana**:

1. **Sangama Dynasty (1336–1485 CE):** Harihara I & Bukka I (Bukka's son Kampana conquered Madurai, celebrated in his wife **Gangadevi's** Sanskrit epic *Madhuravijayam*); **Deva Raya I** (built a dam across the Tungabhadra and visited by Italian traveller **Niccolo de' Conti** in 1420); **Deva Raya II (1422–1446 CE)** (greatest Sangama ruler, titled *Gajabetekara* — "Hunter of Elephants", recruited Muslim cavalry archers into his army, and received Persian ambassador **Abdur Razzaq** of Samarqand in 1443) (NCERT).

2. **Saluva Dynasty (1485–1505 CE):** Founded by **Saluva Narasimha**.

3. **Tuluva Dynasty (1505–1570 CE):** Founded by **Vira Narasimha**; reached its imperial pinnacle under his half-brother **Krishnadevaraya (1509–1529 CE)**. Later, under nominal ruler **Sadashiva Raya**, regent **Aliya Rama Raya** was defeated and killed by the combined forces of four Deccan Sultanates (**Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, Golconda, and Bidar** — excluding **Berar**) at the **Battle of Talikota (Rakshasi-Tangadi / Bannihatti) on 23 January 1565** (ASI).

4. **Aravidu Dynasty (1570–1646 CE):** Founded by **Tirumala** at **Penukonda** (later Chandragiri and Vellore); **Venkata II** granted permission to the Dutch at Pulicat.

• **Reign of Krishnadevaraya (1509–1529 CE):** Styled **Andhra Bhoja**, **Abhinava Bhoja**, and **Yavanarajya Sthapanacharya** ("Restorer of the Yavana/Bahmani Kingdom"). He defeated the Gajapati ruler **Prataparudra Deva** of Odisha, captured the **Raichur Doab** from Bijapur (1520), maintained cordial trade ties with Portuguese Governor **Afonso de Albuquerque** (for Arabian horses via Bhatkal), authored the Telugu statecraft epic **Amuktamalyada** and Sanskrit plays **Jambavati Kalyanam** and **Ushaparinayam**, and patronized the **Ashtadiggajas** (eight Telugu literary luminaries led by *Andhra Kavita Pitamaha* **Allasani Peddana**, author of *Manucharitamu*, alongside **Tenali Ramakrishna**, author of *Panduranga Mahatmyamu*, and Nandi Thimmana) (Indian Culture Portal).

4.2 Vijayanagara Administration, Hampi Architecture, and the Bahmani Sultanate

• **Amara-Nayaka (Nayankara) and Ayagar Systems:** Military commanders (**Nayakas / Amara-Nayakas**) were granted territories called **Amaram** to maintain fixed contingents of horses, elephants, and foot soldiers, paying annual tribute to the Raya during the nine-day **Mahanavami Dibba (Navaratri)** festival. At the village level, the **Ayagar System** replaced Chola-style autonomous assemblies with **12 hereditary village functionaries (*Ayagars*)** remunerated through tax-free land plots (*Manyams*) (NCERT).

• **Vijayanagara Temple Architecture (Hampi):** Characterized by towering entrance gateways (**Raya Gopurams**), multi-pillared halls (**Kalyana Mandapam** and **Thousand-Pillared Mandapam**) with monolithic rearing mythical beasts (**Yali** pillars), musical pillars, and a separate shrine for the consort goddess (**Amman Shrine**), exemplified by the **Vitthala Temple** (featuring the iconic stone chariot and 56 musical pillars), **Hazara Rama Temple**, **Virupaksha Temple**, and Indo-Islamic **Lotus Mahal** (ASI).

• **Bahmani Sultanate (1347–1527 CE) and Five Deccan Successor States:** Founded in **1347 CE** by **Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah (Hasan Gangu)** at **Gulbarga (Ahsanabad)**; **Ahmad Shah Wali** shifted the capital to **Bidar (Muhammadabad)** in 1422. Under prime minister (*Wakil-us-Sultanat / Malik-ut-Tujjar*) **Mahmud Gawan (1463–1481 CE)**, the kingdom expanded from the Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal (capturing Goa and Dabhol), divided into **8 Tarafs (provinces)**, and boasted the famous three-storeyed **Madrasa of Mahmud Gawan at Bidar** before Gawan was unjustly executed in 1481 due to factional rivalry between **Deccanis** (local nobles) and **Afaqis / Gharibs** (Iranian/Central Asian newcomers). The Bahmani realm subsequently splintered into **Five Deccan Sultanates** (NCERT).

4.3 Vijayanagara Revenue Terminology, Social Life, and Foreign Travellers' Observations

• **Fiscal and Administrative Vocabulary of Vijayanagara:** Land was surveyed and categorized into **wet land (*Nanjai*)**, **dry land (*Punjai*)**, and **orchards/groves (*Thottam*)**, managed by the central revenue department **Athavane**. Taxes included **Sist** (basic land revenue, typically 1/6th to 1/2 depending on soil/crop), **Kadamai**, **Magamai**, professional taxes on weavers (*Kaikkolas*), potters, marriage tax (**vivaha-pannu**, abolished by Krishnadevaraya), and customs duties (NCERT).

• **Position of Women and Cultural Life:** Foreign visitors (**Nuniz** and **Paes**) explicitly noted that women in Vijayanagara served as **astrologers, accountants, royal bodyguards, wrestlers, musicians, and court**

chroniclers — highlighted by literary luminaries **Gangadevi** (*Madhuravijayam*), **Tirumalamba** (who composed *Varadambika Parinayam* on the marriage of Achyuta Deva Raya), and **Molla** (who authored the Telugu *Molla Ramayanam*). Meanwhile, *YakShagana* theatre and **Carnatic Classical Music** (codified by **Purandaradasa**, revered as the *Pitamaha of Carnatic Music*, alongside **Annamacharya's** *Sankirtanas* at Tirupati) flourished (Indian Culture Portal).

Foreign Traveller	Country & Year of Visit	Reigning Vijayanagara Monarch	Key Recorded Observations	Official Source
Ibn Battuta	Morocco (1333–47)	**Harihara I** (Foundation Era)	Described West Coast maritime ports (*Honavar*, *Calicut*) in his Arabic *Rihla*	NCERT
Niccolo de' Conti	Venice, Italy (c. 1420)	**Deva Raya I** (Sangama)	Described the 60-mile circumference of Vijayanagara, festivals of Deepavali/Navaratri, and *Telugu* as the "*Italian of the East*"	Indian Culture Portal
Abdur Razzaq	Herat, Persia (1443)	**Deva Raya II** (Sangama)	Described 7 fortified walls enclosing agricultural fields, bazaar of jewellers, and the Secretariat (*Diwan Khana*)	NCERT
Duarte Barbosa & Domingo Paes	Portugal (1500–16 & 1520–22)	**Krishnadevaraya** (Tuluva)	Barbosa praised **complete religious freedom** granted to all creeds; Paes described Krishnadevaraya's physique, *Mahanavami Dibba*, and irrigation tanks	ASI
Fernao Nuniz & Caesar Frederick	Portugal (1535–37) & Italy (1567)	**Achyuta Deva Raya** & Post-Talikota **Tirumala**	Nuniz (horse trader) chronicled the **Amara-Nayaka** system & women chroniclers; Caesar Frederick witnessed Hampi's desolation after **1565 Talikota**	IUC Academy

• **Battle of Raichur (1520 CE) and Military Technology:** Krishnadevaraya defeated Ismail Adil Shah of Bijapur at Raichur with the aid of **Portuguese musketeers (Cristovao de Figueiredo)** who shot down defenders atop the fort walls, demonstrating the growing decisive role of firearms and foreign horse imports in Deccan warfare (NCERT).

• **Provincial Hierarchy of Vijayanagara:** The Empire (*Rajya*) was organized into **Mandalam / Rajya** (provinces governed by royal princes or high nobles called *Mandaleshwaras*), **Nadu** (districts), **Sthala / Seema** (sub-districts grouping several villages), and **Grama** (village administered by the 12 hereditary **Ayagars** including the *Karnam*/*Senabhova* accountant, *Reddi*/*Gauda* headman, and *Talari* watchman) (UPSC).

• **Deccani Urdu (Dakhini) Literary Efflorescence:** Patronized at Golconda by **Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah** (who compiled the first *Diwan* in Dakhini Urdu and built the *Charminar* and *Mecca Masjid*) and **Mulla Wajhi** (author of the allegorical prose work *Sabras*), and at Bijapur by **Ibrahim Adil Shah II** (Indian Culture Portal).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Foundation of Vijayanagara (1336 CE at Hampi) & Bahmani Kingdom (1347 CE at Gulbarga) in the Deccan

STEP 2
Contest over Raichur Doab, Krishna-Godavari Delta & Marathwada Ports + Mahmud Gawan's Bidar Reforms

STEP 3
Krishnadevaraya's Imperial Zenith (1509–1529 CE: Ashtadiggajas, Vitthala Temple & Amara-Nayaka Consolidation)

STEP 4
Battle of Talikota (1565 CE) by Four Deccan Sultanates & Transition to Aravidu Dynasty at Penukonda

Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller	Capital / Home Country	Ruling Dynasty & Founder / Reigning Vijayanagara King	Major Historical Monument or Account	Official Reference
Bijapur (1490–1686)	Bijapur (Vijayapura)	**Adil Shahi** — Yusuf Adil Shah	**Ibrahim Adil Shah II** (*Jagadguru Badshah*, author of *Kitab-i-Nauras*); **Gol Gumbaz** (whispering gallery tomb of Muhammad Adil Shah)	ASI
Ahmadnagar (1490–1633)	Ahmadnagar	**Nizam Shahi** — Malik Ahmad	Heroic defense by **Chand Bibi** against Akbar (1595) and guerrilla warfare by **Malik Ambar** against Jahangir	NCERT
Golconda (1518–1687)	Golconda / Hyderabad	**Qutb Shahi** — Quli Qutb-ul-Mulk	**Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah** founded Hyderabad and built **Charminar (1591)**	ASI
Berar (1490) & Bidar (1526)	Ellichpur / Bidar	**Imad Shahi** (Fathullah Imad-ul-Mulk) & **Barid Shahi** (Qasim/Amir Ali Barid)	Berar annexed by Ahmadnagar (1574); Bidar annexed by Bijapur (1619)	UPSC
Niccolo de' Conti, Abdur Razzaq, Domingo Paes, Fernao Nuniz	Italy (1420), Persia (1443), Portugal (1520, 1535)	Visited **Deva Raya I**, **Deva Raya II**, **Krishnadevaraya**, and **Achyuta Deva Raya** respectively	Recorded Vijayanagara's 7 concentric fortifications, diamond markets, *Mahanavami* festivities, and *Varaha* gold coins	NCERT

Did You Know?: The Vijayanagara empire's standard gold coin was the **Varaha (called *Pagoda* or *Pardao* by European traders)** weighing roughly **52 grains**, accompanied by half-Varahas (*Pratapa*) and quarter-Varahas (*Fanam*), which circulated so widely across South India and maritime Southeast Asia that even early European trading companies minted their own *Pagodas* on the Vijayanagara standard (National Museum).

Exam Trap Alert: Among the five successor Deccan Sultanates (**Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, Golconda, Bidar, and Berar**), **Berar (Imad Shahi dynasty)** did **NOT** participate in the **1565 Battle of Talikota** against Vijayanagara because of its bitter rivalry with Ahmadnagar (UPSC).

★ **Memory Trick:** Match the four Vijayanagara dynasties in chronological order using **"S-S-T-A"** — **S**angama (Harihara & Bukka) -> **S**aluva (Saluva Narasimha) -> **T**uluva (Vira Narasimha & Krishnadevaraya) -> **A**ravidu (Tirumala); and match foreign visitors: **C**onti = **D**eva Raya I, **R**azzaq = **D**eva Raya II, **B**arbosa & **P**aes = **K**rishnadevaraya, **N**uniz = **A**chyuta Deva Raya (IUC Academy).

Chapter 4 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
The Vijayanagara Empire: Four Dynasties and Krishnadevaraya (1336–1646 CE)	**Foundation and Four Ruling Dynasties**	Founded in **1336 CE** on the southern bank of the **Tungabhadra River** (Hampi, Karnataka) by brothers **Harihara I and Bukka I** (formerly in the service of Kampili/Kakatiyas) under the spiritual guidance of saint **Vidyaranya** and Vedic commentator **Sayana**:
Vijayanagara Administration, Hampi Architecture, and the Bahmani Sultanate	**Sangama Dynasty (1336–1485 CE)**	Harihara I & Bukka I (Bukka's son Kampana conquered Madurai, celebrated in his wife **Gangadevi's** Sanskrit epic *Madhuravijayam*); **Deva Raya I** (built a dam across the Tungabhadra and visited by Italian traveller **Niccolo de' Conti** in 1420); **Deva Raya II (1422–1446 CE)** (greatest Sangama ruler, titled *Gajabetekara* — "Hunter of Elephants", recruited Muslim cavalry archers into his army, and received Persian ambassador **Abdur Razzaq** of Samarqand in 1443) (NCERT).
Vijayanagara Revenue Terminology, Social Life, and Foreign Travellers' Observations	**Saluva Dynasty (1485–1505 CE)**	Founded by **Saluva Narasimha**.
The Vijayanagara Empire: Four Dynasties and Krishnadevaraya (1336–1646 CE)	**Tuluva Dynasty (1505–1570 CE)**	Founded by **Vira Narasimha**; reached its imperial pinnacle under his half-brother **Krishnadevaraya (1509–1529 CE)**. Later, under nominal ruler **Sadashiva Raya**, regent **Aliya Rama Raya** was defeated and killed by the combined forces of four Deccan Sultanates (**Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, Golconda, and Bidar** — excluding **Berar**) at the **Battle of Talikota (Rakshasi-Tangadi / Bannihatti) on 23 January 1565** (ASI).
Vijayanagara Administration, Hampi Architecture, and the Bahmani Sultanate	**Aravidu Dynasty (1570–1646 CE)**	Founded by **Tirumala** at **Penukonda** (later Chandragiri and Vellore); **Venkata II** granted permission to the Dutch at Pulicat.
Vijayanagara Revenue Terminology, Social Life, and Foreign Travellers' Observations	**Reign of Krishnadevaraya (1509–1529 CE)**	Styled **Andhra Bhoja**, **Abhinava Bhoja**, and **Yavanarajya Sthapanacharya** ("Restorer of the Yavana/Bahmani Kingdom"). He defeated the Gajapati ruler **Prataparudra Deva** of Odisha, captured the **Raichur Doab** from Bijapur (1520), maintained cordial trade ties with Portuguese Governor **Afonso de Albuquerque** (for Arabian horses via Bhatkal), authored the Telugu statecraft epic **Amuktamalyada** and Sanskrit plays **Jambavati Kalyanam** and **Ushaparinayam**, and patronized the **Ashtadiggajas** (eight Telugu literary luminaries led by *Andhra Kavita Pitamaha* **Allasani Peddana**, author of *Manucharitamu*, alongside **Tenali Ramakrishna**, author of *Panduranga Mahatmyamu*, and Nandi Thimmana) (Indian Culture Portal).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
The Vijayanagara Empire: Four Dynasties and Krishnadevaraya (1336–1646 CE)	**Amara-Nayaka (Nayankara) and Ayagar Systems**	Military commanders (**Nayakas / Amara-Nayakas**) were granted territories called **Amaram** to maintain fixed contingents of horses, elephants, and foot soldiers, paying annual tribute to the Raya during the nine-day **Mahanavami Dibba (Navaratri)** festival. At the village level, the **Ayagar System** replaced Chola-style autonomous assemblies with **12 hereditary village functionaries (*Ayagars*)** remunerated through tax-free land plots (*Manyams*) (NCERT).
Vijayanagara Administration, Hampi Architecture, and the Bahmani Sultanate	**Vijayanagara Temple Architecture (Hampi)**	Characterized by towering entrance gateways (**Raya Gopurams**), multi-pillared halls (**Kalyana Mandapam** and **Thousand-Pillared Mandapam**) with monolithic rearing mythical beasts (**Yali** pillars), musical pillars, and a separate shrine for the consort goddess (**Amman Shrine**), exemplified by the **Vitthala Temple** (featuring the iconic stone chariot and 56 musical pillars), **Hazara Rama Temple**, **Virupaksha Temple**, and Indo-Islamic **Lotus Mahal** (ASI).
Vijayanagara Revenue Terminology, Social Life, and Foreign Travellers' Observations	**Bahmani Sultanate (1347–1527 CE) and Five Deccan Successor States**	Founded in **1347 CE** by **Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah (Hasan Gangu)** at **Gulbarga (Ahsanabad)**; **Ahmad Shah Wali** shifted the capital to **Bidar (Muhammadabad)** in 1422. Under prime minister (*Wakil-us-Sultanat / Malik-ut-Tujjar*) **Mahmud Gawan (1463–1481 CE)**, the kingdom expanded from the Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal (capturing Goa and Dabhol), divided into **8 Tarafs (provinces)**, and boasted the famous three-storeyed **Madrasa of Mahmud Gawan at Bidar** before Gawan was unjustly executed in 1481 due to factional rivalry between **Deccanis** (local nobles) and **Afaqis / Gharibs** (Iranian/Central Asian newcomers). The Bahmani realm subsequently splintered into **Five Deccan Sultanates** (NCERT).
The Vijayanagara Empire: Four Dynasties and Krishnadevaraya (1336–1646 CE)	**Fiscal and Administrative Vocabulary of Vijayanagara**	Land was surveyed and categorized into **wet land (*Nanjai*)**, **dry land (*Punjai*)**, and **orchards/groves (*Thottam*)**, managed by the central revenue department **Athavane**. Taxes included **Sist** (basic land revenue, typically 1/6th to 1/2 depending on soil/crop), **Kadamai**, **Magamai**, professional taxes on weavers (*Kaikkolas*), potters, marriage tax (**vivaha-pannu**, abolished by Krishnadevaraya), and customs duties (NCERT).
Vijayanagara Administration, Hampi Architecture, and the Bahmani Sultanate	**Position of Women and Cultural Life**	Foreign visitors (**Nuniz** and **Paes**) explicitly noted that women in Vijayanagara served as **astrologers, accountants, royal bodyguards, wrestlers, musicians, and court chroniclers** — highlighted by literary luminaries **Gangadevi** (*Madhuravijayam*), **Tirumalamba** (who composed *Varadambika Parinayam* on the marriage of Achyuta Deva Raya), and **Molla** (who authored the Telugu *Molla Ramayanam*). Meanwhile, *YakShagana* theatre and **Carnatic Classical Music** (codified by **Purandaradasa**, revered as the *Pitamaha of Carnatic Music*, alongside **Annamacharya's** *Sankirtanas* at Tirupati) flourished (Indian Culture Portal).
Vijayanagara Revenue Terminology, Social Life, and Foreign Travellers' Observations	**Battle of Raichur (1520 CE) and Military Technology**	Krishnadevaraya defeated Ismail Adil Shah of Bijapur at Raichur with the aid of **Portuguese musketeers (Cristovao de Figueiredo)** who shot down defenders atop the fort walls, demonstrating the growing decisive role of firearms and foreign horse imports in Deccan warfare (NCERT).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
The Vijayanagara Empire: Four Dynasties and Krishnadevaraya (1336–1646 CE)	**Provincial Hierarchy of Vijayanagara**	The Empire (*Rajya*) was organized into **Mandalam / Rajya** (provinces governed by royal princes or high nobles called *Mandaleshwaras*), **Nadu** (districts), **Sthala / Seema** (sub-districts grouping several villages), and **Grama** (village administered by the 12 hereditary **Ayagars** including the *Karnam*/*Senabhova* accountant, *Reddi*/*Gauda* headman, and *Talari* watchman) (UPSC).
Vijayanagara Administration, Hampi Architecture, and the Bahmani Sultanate	**Deccani Urdu (Dakhini) Literary Efflorescence**	Patronized at Golconda by **Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah** (who compiled the first *Diwan* in Dakhini Urdu and built the *Charminar* and *Mecca Masjid*) and **Mulla Wajhi** (author of the allegorical prose work *Sabras*), and at Bijapur by **Ibrahim Adil Shah II** (Indian Culture Portal).

Chapter 4 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Foundation and Four Ruling Dynasties): Founded in **1336 CE** on the southern bank of the **Tungabhadra River** (Hampi, Karnataka) by brothers **Harihara I and Bukka I** (formerly in the service of Kampili/Kakatiyas) under the spiritual guidance of saint **Vidyaranya** and Vedic commentator **Sayana**:
Statement-II (Sangama Dynasty (1336–1485 CE)): Harihara I & Bukka I (Bukka's son Kampana conquered Madurai, celebrated in his wife **Gangadevi's** Sanskrit epic *Madhuravijayam*); **Deva Raya I** (built a dam across the Tungabhadra and visited by Italian traveller **Niccolo de' Conti** in 1420); **Deva Raya II (1422–1446 CE)** (greatest Sangama ruler, titled *Gajabetekara* — "Hunter of Elephants", recruited Muslim cavalry archers into his army, and received Persian ambassador **Abdur Razzaq** of Samarqand in 1443) (NCERT).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Saluva Dynasty (1485–1505 CE)): Founded by **Saluva Narasimha**.

Statement-II (Tuluva Dynasty (1505–1570 CE)): Founded by **Vira Narasimha**; reached its imperial pinnacle under his half-brother **Krishnadevaraya (1509–1529 CE)**. Later, under nominal ruler **Sadashiva Raya**, regent **Aliya Rama Raya** was defeated and killed by the combined forces of four Deccan Sultanates (**Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, Golconda, and Bidar** — excluding **Berar**) at the **Battle of Talikota (Rakshasi-Tangadi / Bannihatti) on 23 January 1565** (ASI).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Aravidu Dynasty (1570–1646 CE)): Founded by **Tirumala** at **Penukonda** (later Chandragiri and Vellore); **Venkata II** granted permission to the Dutch at Pulicat.

Statement-II (Reign of Krishnadevaraya (1509–1529 CE)): Styled **Andhra Bhoja**, **Abhinava Bhoja**, and **Yavanarajya Sthapanacharya** ("Restorer of the Yavana/Bahmani Kingdom"). He defeated the Gajapati ruler **Prataparudra Deva** of Odisha, captured the **Raichur Doab** from Bijapur (1520), maintained cordial trade ties with Portuguese Governor **Afonso de Albuquerque** (for Arabian horses via Bhatkal), authored the Telugu statecraft epic **Amuktamalyada** and Sanskrit plays **Jambavati Kalyanam** and **Ushaparinayam**, and patronized the **Ashtadiggajas** (eight Telugu literary luminaries led by *Andhra Kavita Pitamaha* **Allasani Peddana**, author of *Manucharitamu*, alongside **Tenali Ramakrishna**, author of *Panduranga Mahatmyamu*, and Nandi Thimmana) (Indian Culture Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Amara-Nayaka (Nayankara) and Ayagar Systems): Military commanders (**Nayakas / Amara-Nayakas**) were granted territories called **Amaram** to maintain fixed contingents of horses, elephants, and foot soldiers, paying annual tribute to the Raya during the nine-day **Mahanavami Dibba (Navaratri)** festival. At the village level, the **Ayagar System** replaced Chola-style autonomous assemblies with **12 hereditary village functionaries (*Ayagars*)** remunerated through tax-free land plots (*Manyams*) (NCERT).

Statement-II (Vijayanagara Temple Architecture (Hampi)): Characterized by towering entrance gateways (**Raya Gopurams**), multi-pillared halls (**Kalyana Mandapam** and **Thousand-Pillared Mandapam**) with monolithic rearing mythical beasts (**Yali** pillars), musical pillars, and a separate shrine for the consort goddess (**Amman Shrine**), exemplified by the **Vitthala Temple** (featuring the iconic stone chariot and 56 musical pillars), **Hazara Rama Temple**, **Virupaksha Temple**, and Indo-Islamic **Lotus Mahal** (ASI).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Bahmani Sultanate (1347–1527 CE) and Five Deccan Successor States): Founded in **1347 CE** by **Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah (Hasan Gangu)** at **Gulbarga (Ahsanabad)**; **Ahmad Shah Wali** shifted the capital to **Bidar (Muhammadabad)** in 1422. Under prime minister (*Wakil-us-Sultanat / Malik-ut-Tujjar*) **Mahmud Gawan (1463–1481 CE)**, the kingdom expanded from the Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal (capturing Goa and Dabhol), divided into **8 Tarafs (provinces)**, and boasted the famous three-storeyed **Madrasa of Mahmud Gawan at Bidar** before Gawan was unjustly executed in 1481 due to factional rivalry between **Deccanis** (local nobles) and **Afaqis / Gharibs** (Iranian/Central Asian newcomers). The Bahmani realm subsequently splintered into **Five Deccan Sultanates** (NCERT).

Statement-II (Fiscal and Administrative Vocabulary of Vijayanagara): Land was surveyed and categorized into **wet land (*Nanjai*)**, **dry land (*Punjai*)**, and **orchards/groves (*Thottam*)**, managed by the central revenue department **Athavane**. Taxes included **Sist** (basic land revenue, typically 1/6th to 1/2 depending on soil/crop), **Kadamai**, **Magamai**, professional taxes on weavers (*Kaikkolas*), potters, marriage tax (**vivaha-pannu**, abolished by Krishnadevaraya), and customs duties (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Position of Women and Cultural Life): Foreign visitors (**Nuniz** and **Paes**) explicitly noted that women in Vijayanagara served as **astrologers, accountants, royal bodyguards, wrestlers, musicians, and court chroniclers** — highlighted by literary luminaries **Gangadevi** (*Madhuravijayam*), **Tirumalamba** (who composed *Varadambika Parinayam* on the marriage of Achyuta Deva Raya), and **Molla** (who authored the Telugu *Molla Ramayanam*). Meanwhile, *YakShagana* theatre and **Carnatic Classical Music** (codified by **Purandaradasa**, revered as the *Pitamaha of Carnatic Music*, alongside **Annamacharya's** *Sankirtanas* at Tirupati) flourished (Indian Culture Portal).

Statement-II (Battle of Raichur (1520 CE) and Military Technology): Krishnadevaraya defeated Ismail Adil Shah of Bijapur at Raichur with the aid of **Portuguese musketeers (Cristovao de Figueiredo)** who shot down defenders atop the fort walls, demonstrating the growing decisive role of firearms and foreign horse imports in Deccan warfare (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *5:* Bhakti and Sufi Movements — Sant Tradition, Chishti-Suhrawardi Silsilahs & Sikh Gurus

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 5: Bhakti and Sufi Movements — Sant Tradition, Chishti-Suhrawardi Silsilahs & Sikh Gurus

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3
Philosophical Foundations of Vedanta and Regional Bhakti Currents	**Guru Nanak Dev Ji & Sikh Tradition, and Sufi Silsilahs in India**	**Comparative Matrix of the Ten Sikh Gurus and Key Bhakti-Sufi Terminology**

5.1 Philosophical Foundations of Vedanta and Regional Bhakti Currents

• **Acharyas of Vedanta Philosophy:**

1. **Adi Shankaracharya (8th–9th Century CE, Kaladi, Kerala):** Propounded **Advaita Vedanta** (Absolute Non-Dualism: *Brahma Satyam Jagat Mithya, Jivo Brahmaiva Naparah* — Brahman alone is ultimately real, the phenomenal world is illusory *Maya*, and the individual soul is identical with Brahman); established four cardinal **Mathas** at **Sringeri** (South), **Dwaraka** (West), **Puri** (East), and **Jyotirmath/Badrinath** (North) (Indian Culture Portal).

2. **Ramanujacharya (1017–1137 CE, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu):** Propounded **Vishishtadvaita** (Qualified Non-Dualism: individual souls *Chit* and matter *Achit* are real attributes/modes of the Supreme Lord Vishnu/Narayana); emphasized *Prapatti* (unconditional self-surrender) and open devotion across castes.

3. **Madhvacharya (13th Century, Udupi, Karnataka):** Propounded **Dvaita** (Strict Dualism: Five eternal distinctions *Pancha-Bheda* between God, souls, and matter; founded the *Brahma Sampradaya*).

4. **Nimbarkacharya** (**Dvaitadvaita** / *Bhedabheda* — Dualistic Non-Dualism) and **Vallabhacharya** (**Shuddhadvaita** — Pure Non-Dualism and **Pushtimarg** grace path centred on Shrinathji/Krishna) (NCERT).

• **Nirguna and Saguna Sants of North, East, and West India:**

• **Ramananda (14th–15th Century):** Brought Bhakti from South to North India (Varanasi), substituting **Rama** for Vishnu and preaching in vernacular **Hindi** to twelve disciples from all social strata including **Kabir** (weaver), **Ravidas / Raidas** (cobbler), **Sena** (barber), **Dhanna** (Jat peasant), and **Sadhana** (butcher).

• **Kabir (15th Century):** Radical **Nirguna** mystic critic of both orthodox Brahmanical ritualism and Islamic formalism; his couplets (*Dohas / Sakhi, Sabad, Ramaini*) are preserved in the **Bijak**, **Kabir Granthavali**, and the **Adi Granth** (NCERT).

• **Saguna Vaishnava Poets: Tulsidas** (authored *Ramcharitmanas, Vinaya Patrika, Kavitavali* in Awadhi/Braj during Akbar's reign), **Surdas** (blind disciple of Vallabhacharya, one of the *Ashtachhap* poets, authored *Sursagar, Sur Saravali, Sahitya Lahari* in Braj Bhasha), **Mirabai** (Rathore princess married into Mewar, composed passionate *Padavali* bhajans to Giridhar Gopal), **Chaitanya Mahaprabhu (1486–1533)** (popularized ecstatic *Sankirtana* congregational singing and *Achintya Bhedabheda* in Bengal and Odisha), **Srimanta Sankardeva (1449–1568)** (founded **Ekasarana Dharma** in Assam, establishing **Satras** and **Namghars**, and composing *Borgeets* and *Ankiya Naat* plays in *Brajavali*), and **Narsinh Mehta** (Gujarati author of "*Vaishnava Jana To*") (Indian Culture Portal).

• **Maharashtra Varkari & Dharakari Tradition (13th–17th Century):** Focused on **Vithoba (Vitthala) of Pandharpur — Sant Jnaneshwar (Dnyaneshwar)** (wrote *Jnaneshwari / Bhavartha Dipika* commentary on the Gita in Marathi at age 15 and *Amritanubhava*), **Namdev** (tailor saint whose Marathi and Hindi *Abhangas* are included in the Guru Granth Sahib), **Eknath** (popularized *Bharud* folk songs), **Tukaram** (contemporary of Shivaji, composed devotional *Abhangas*), and **Samarth Ramdas** (*Dharakari* saint, spiritual guide to Shivaji, authored **Dasbodh**) (NCERT).

5.2 Guru Nanak Dev Ji & Sikh Tradition, and Sufi Silsilahs in India

• **Guru Nanak Dev Ji (1469–1539 CE) and the Ten Sikh Gurus:** Born at **Talwandi (Nankana Sahib)** on the Ravi River; preached **Nirguna Ik Onkar** (One Formless Creator), rejected caste hierarchy and idol worship, and established **Sangat** (congregational fellowship) and **Panghat / Langar** (free community kitchen) at **Kartarpur**. **Guru Angad** standardized the **Gurmukhi script**; **Guru Amar Das** established *22 Manjis*; **Guru Ram Das** founded **Amritsar (*Ramdaspur*)** on land granted by Akbar; **Guru Arjan Dev** constructed the **Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple)**, compiled the **Adi Granth (1604 CE)**, and was martyred under Jahangir (1606); **Guru Hargobind** instituted **Miri and Piri** (temporal and spiritual swords) and built the **Akal Takht**; **Guru Tegh Bahadur** (9th Guru) was martyred under Aurangzeb (1675); and **Guru Gobind Singh (10th Guru)** founded the **Khalsa Panth on Vaisakhi (1699)** at Anandpur Sahib with the **Five Ks (*Panj Kakar*)** and declared the **Guru Granth Sahib** the eternal living Guru (NCERT).

• **Sufi Mysticism (*Tasawwuf*) and Major *Silsilahs* (Orders):** Organized centered on a spiritual hospice (**Khanqah / Jama'at Khana**) led by a master (**Pir / Shaikh / Murshid**) who guides disciples (**Murids**) and designates a spiritual successor (**Khalifa**). Classified by Abul Fazl's *Ain-i-Akbari* into 14 *Silsilahs*, divided into **Ba-shara** (observing Islamic law) and **Be-shara** (wandering *Qalandars* and *Madaris*):

1. **Chishti Silsilah:** Established in India at **Ajmer** by **Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti** (*Gharib Nawaz*, arrived c. 1192 CE); succeeded by **Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki** (Delhi), **Fariduddin Ganj-i-Shakar (Baba Farid)** of Ajodhan/Pakpattan (whose verses are incorporated in the *Guru Granth Sahib*), **Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya**

(*Mahbub-i-Ilahi* of Delhi, who witnessed the reign of seven Sultans without ever visiting the royal court, practised **Sama** musical audition and *Habs-i-Dam* breath control, and whose conversations **Fawa'id-ul-Fu'ad** were recorded by Amir Hasan Sijzi alongside chief disciple **Amir Khusrau**), **Nasiruddin Chiragh-i-Dehlavi**, **Burhanuddin Gharib** (took Chishtiyya to Daulatabad), and **Khwaja Bande Nawaz Gesudaraz** of Gulbarga (NCERT).

2. **Suhrawardi, Firdausi, Qadiri, and Naqshbandi Silsilahs: Bahauddin Zakariya** of Multan founded the **Suhrawardi** order in India (unlike Chishtis, Suhrawardis accepted royal *Jagirs* and state titles like *Shaikh-ul-Islam*); **Sharafuddin Yahya Maneri** led the **Firdausi** order in Bihar; **Mian Mir** (who laid the foundation stone of the Harmandir Sahib) and **Dara Shikoh** belonged to the **Qadiri** order; and **Khwaja Baqi Billah** and **Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi** (*Mujaddid-i-Alf-i-Sani* — orthodox critic of Akbar's syncretism and Ibn al-Arabi's *Wahdat-ul-Wujud*) led the **Naqshbandi** order (which strictly prohibited *Sama* music) (UPSC).

5.3 Comparative Matrix of the Ten Sikh Gurus and Key Bhakti-Sufi Terminology

• **Institutional Milestones Across the Ten Sikh Gurus (1469–1708 CE):** The Sikh panth evolved from a peaceful devotional fellowship (*Nanak-panth*) into a disciplined socio-spiritual and martial commonwealth (*Khalsa*) in response to 17th-century Mughal persecution (NCERT):

• **Masand System:** Initiated under **Guru Amar Das** (*22 Manjis*) and institutionalized by **Guru Ram Das** and **Guru Arjan Dev** (where regional deputies called *Masands* collected voluntary **Dasvandh** — 1/10th tithe of income — for the central Guru's treasury), and later abolished by **Guru Gobind Singh** in 1699 when the *Masands* became corrupt (UPSC).

Sikh Guru	Guruship Period	Historic Institutional, Scriptural, or Political Contribution	Contemporary Mughal Ruler(s)	Official Source
1. Guru Nanak Dev Ji	1469–1539 CE	Born at Talwandi; *Ik Onkar*, **Sangat** & **Langar** at Kartarpur	Bahlul/Sikandar/ Ibrahim Lodi, **Babur**, Humayun	NCERT
2. Guru Angad Dev & 3. Guru Amar Das	1539–1552 & 1552–1574	Standardized **Gurmukhi Script** (Angad); made *Langar* compulsory (*Pehle Pangat Phir Sangat*), *22 Manjis*, **Anand Karaj** marriage, opposed *Sati* (Amar Das)	Humayun, Sher Shah Suri, **Akbar**	Indian Culture Portal
4. Guru Ram Das & 5. Guru Arjan Dev	1574–1581 & 1581–1606	Founded **Chak Ramdas / Amritsar** (Ram Das); built **Harmandir Sahib**, compiled **Adi Granth (1604)**, martyred at Lahore (Arjan Dev)	**Akbar** & **Jahangir**	NCERT
6. Guru Hargobind, 7. Guru Har Rai & 8. Guru Har Krishan	1606–1644, 1644–1661, 1661–1664	Donned twin swords **Miri & Piri**, built **Akal Takht** & *Lohgarh* fort (Hargobind); blessed Dara Shikoh (Har Rai); youngest Guru (Har Krishan)	Jahangir, **Shah Jahan**, **Aurangzeb**	Indian Culture Portal
9. Guru Tegh Bahadur & 10. Guru Gobind Singh	1664–1675 & 1675–1708	Martyred at Chandni Chowk (**Sis Ganj Sahib**, 1675) defending Kashmiri Pandits' religious freedom (Tegh Bahadur); founded **Khalsa (1699)**, *Zafarnama*, *Dasam Granth* (Gobind Singh)	**Aurangzeb** & Bahadur Shah I	IUC Academy

• **Philosophical Dialogue between Nathpanthis, Siddhas, and Nirguna Sants:** Early medieval **Nathpanthi Yogis** (founded by **Matsyendranath** and **Gorakhnath**) advocated *Hatha Yoga* and rejected ritual orthodoxy and caste distinctions, directly influencing **Sant Kabir** and the early **Maharashtra Varkari** poet-saints (NCERT).

• **Women Voices in the Bhakti Movement: Andal** (only female Alvar of Tamil Nadu, who saw herself as the bride of Ranganatha/Vishnu in *Tiruppavai*), **Karaikkal Ammaiyar** (early female Shaiva Nayanar ascetic), **Akka Mahadevi** (12th-century Kannada Virashaiva mystic devoted to *Chennamallikarjuna*), **Lal Ded (Lalleshwari)** (14th-century Kashmiri Shaiva mystic composer of **Vakhs**), **Janabai** and **Bahinabai** (Maharashtra Varkari poets), and **Mirabai** (Rajasthan/Dwarka) (NCERT).

• **Chishti Practices of *Ziyarat* and *Urs*:** Pilgrimage to the tomb-shrine (*Dargah*) of a Sufi saint on his death anniversary (**Urs**, symbolizing the mystic union of the saint's soul with the Divine Beloved) fostered shared composite culture across communities (Indian Culture Portal).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
South Indian Alvar-Nayanar Devotionalism (6th–9th Century CE) & Vedantic Philosophical Schools (Advaita to Dvaita)

STEP 2
Northward Diffusion via Ramananda, Varkari Abhangas in Maharashtra & Nirguna Sants (Kabir, Ravidas, Guru Nanak)

STEP 3
Chishti & Suhrawardi Khanqah Networks, Sama Audition & Malfuzat Vernacular Literature

STEP 4
Syncretic Cultural Synthesis (Guru Granth Sahib 1604 CE, Dara Shikoh's Majma-ul-Bahrain & Regional Literary Flowering)

Philosopher / Saint / Sufi Master	Philosophical School / Silsilah	Primary Seat / Region	Magnum Opus or Key Doctrinal Contribution	Official Reference
Adi Shankaracharya	**Advaita** (Non-Dualism)	Kaladi (Kerala) & 4 Cardinal Mathas	*Brahmasutra Bhashya*, *Vivekachudamani*; *Nirguna Brahman* & *Maya*	Indian Culture Portal
Ramanujacharya	**Vishishtadvaita** (Qualified Non-Dualism)	Sriperumbudur & Srirangam (TN)	*Sri Bhashya*; *Saguna Brahman* combining devotion (*Bhakti*) with grace	NCERT
Basavanna (12th Century)	**Virashaiva / Lingayat** Movement	Kalyana (Karnataka — court of Kalachuri king Bijjala)	Founded **Anubhava Mantapa**; Kannada **Vachanas** rejecting caste, rebirth, cremation, and untouchability	NCERT
Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya	**Chishti Silsilah**	Ghiyaspur, Delhi	Austere independence from Sultans; *Sama* & *Langar*; disciple **Amir Khusrau** (*Tuti-i-Hind*) invented *Qawwali*, *Sitar*, *Sabak-i-Hindi*	Indian Culture Portal
Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi	**Naqshbandi Silsilah**	Sirhind (Punjab — Reign of Akbar & Jahangir)	Propounded **Wahdat-ush-Shuhud** (Unity of Witness/Phenomenon) against Ibn al-Arabi's *Wahdat-ul-Wujud* (Unity of Being)	UPSC

Did You Know?: Three categories of Sufi literature provide rich historical insights into medieval society: **Malfuzat** (recorded table-talk/conversations of Sufi masters, such as Amir Hasan Sijzi's *Fawa'id-ul-Fu'ad*), **Maktubat** (collections of letters written by Sufi masters to disciples and nobles, such as Shaikh Sharafuddin Yahya Maneri's *Maktubat-i-Sadi*), and **Tazkiras** (biographical dictionaries of Sufi saints, such as Mir Khwurd's *Siyar-ul-Auliya* and Abdul Haq Muhaddis Dehlavi's *Akhbar-ul-Akhyar*) (NCERT).

Exam Trap Alert: Do not confuse **Chaitanya Mahaprabhu** and **Tulsidas** as Nirguna saints — both were **Saguna** Vaishnava saints (worshipping Krishna and Rama respectively with attributes and form), whereas **Kabir, Guru Nanak, Dadu Dayal, and Raidas** belonged to the **Nirguna** stream (worshipping a formless, attribute-less Supreme Reality) (UPSC).

★ **Memory Trick:** Match the five Vedanta schools with their founders using **"S-A, R-V, M-D, N-D, V-S"** — **S**hankara = **A**dvaita, **R**amanuja = **V**ishishtadvaita, **M**adhva = **D**vaita, **N**imbarka = **D**vaitadvaita, **V**allabha = **S**huddhadvaita (IUC Academy).

Chapter *5* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Philosophical Foundations of Vedanta and Regional Bhakti Currents	**Adi Shankaracharya (8th–9th Century CE, Kaladi, Kerala)**	Propounded **Advaita Vedanta** (Absolute Non-Dualism: *Brahma Satyam Jagat Mithya, Jivo Brahmaiva Naparah* — Brahman alone is ultimately real, the phenomenal world is illusory *Maya*, and the individual soul is identical with Brahman); established four cardinal **Mathas** at **Sringeri** (South), **Dwaraka** (West), **Puri** (East), and **Jyotirmath/Badrinath** (North) (Indian Culture Portal).
Guru Nanak Dev Ji & Sikh Tradition, and Sufi Silsilahs in India	**Ramanujacharya (1017–1137 CE, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu)**	Propounded **Vishishtadvaita** (Qualified Non-Dualism: individual souls *Chit* and matter *Achit* are real attributes/modes of the Supreme Lord Vishnu/Narayana); emphasized *Prapatti* (unconditional self-surrender) and open devotion across castes.
Comparative Matrix of the Ten Sikh Gurus and Key Bhakti-Sufi Terminology	**Madhvacharya (13th Century, Udupi, Karnataka)**	Propounded **Dvaita** (Strict Dualism: Five eternal distinctions *Pancha-Bheda* between God, souls, and matter; founded the *Brahma Sampradaya*).
Philosophical Foundations of Vedanta and Regional Bhakti Currents	**Nimbarkacharya**	(**Dvaitadvaita** / *Bhedabheda* — Dualistic Non-Dualism) and **Vallabhacharya** (**Shuddhadvaita** — Pure Non-Dualism and **Pushtimarg** grace path centred on Shrinathji/Krishna) (NCERT).
Guru Nanak Dev Ji & Sikh Tradition, and Sufi Silsilahs in India	**Ramananda (14th–15th Century)**	Brought Bhakti from South to North India (Varanasi), substituting **Rama** for Vishnu and preaching in vernacular **Hindi** to twelve disciples from all social strata including **Kabir** (weaver), **Ravidas / Raidas** (cobbler), **Sena** (barber), **Dhanna** (Jat peasant), and **Sadhana** (butcher).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Comparative Matrix of the Ten Sikh Gurus and Key Bhakti-Sufi Terminology	**Kabir (15th Century)**	Radical **Nirguna** mystic critic of both orthodox Brahmanical ritualism and Islamic formalism; his couplets (*Dohas / Sakhi*, *Sabad*, *Ramaini*) are preserved in the **Bijak**, **Kabir Granthavali**, and the **Adi Granth** (NCERT).
Philosophical Foundations of Vedanta and Regional Bhakti Currents	**Saguna Vaishnava Poets**	**Tulsidas** (authored *Ramcharitmanas*, *Vinaya Patrika*, *Kavitavali* in Awadhi/ Braj during Akbar's reign), **Surdas** (blind disciple of Vallabhacharya, one of the *Ashtachhap* poets, authored *Sursagar*, *Sur Saravali*, *Sahitya Lahari* in Braj Bhasha), **Mirabai** (Rathore princess married into Mewar, composed passionate *Padavali* bhajans to Giridhar Gopal), **Chaitanya Mahaprabhu (1486–1533)** (popularized ecstatic *Sankirtana* congregational singing and *Achintya Bhedabheda* in Bengal and Odisha), **Srimanta Sankardeva (1449–1568)** (founded **Ekasarana Dharma** in Assam, establishing **Satras** and **Namghars**, and composing *Borgeets* and *Ankiya Naat* plays in *Brajavali*), and **Narsinh Mehta** (Gujarati author of "*Vaishnava Jana To*") (Indian Culture Portal).
Guru Nanak Dev Ji & Sikh Tradition, and Sufi Silsilahs in India	**Maharashtra Varkari & Dharakari Tradition (13th–17th Century)**	Focused on **Vithoba (Vitthala) of Pandharpur — Sant Jnaneshwar (Dnyaneshwar)** (wrote *Jnaneshwari / Bhavartha Dipika* commentary on the Gita in Marathi at age 15 and *Amritanubhava*), **Namdev** (tailor saint whose Marathi and Hindi *Abhangas* are included in the Guru Granth Sahib), **Eknath** (popularized *Bharud* folk songs), **Tukaram** (contemporary of Shivaji, composed devotional *Abhangas*), and **Samarth Ramdas** (*Dharakari* saint, spiritual guide to Shivaji, authored **Dasbodh**) (NCERT).
Comparative Matrix of the Ten Sikh Gurus and Key Bhakti-Sufi Terminology	**Guru Nanak Dev Ji (1469–1539 CE) and the Ten Sikh Gurus**	Born at **Talwandi (Nankana Sahib)** on the Ravi River; preached **Nirguna Ik Onkar** (One Formless Creator), rejected caste hierarchy and idol worship, and established **Sangat** (congregational fellowship) and **Panghat / Langar** (free community kitchen) at **Kartarpur**. **Guru Angad** standardized the **Gurmukhi script**; **Guru Amar Das** established 22 *Manjis*; **Guru Ram Das** founded **Amritsar (*Ramdaspur*)** on land granted by Akbar; **Guru Arjan Dev** constructed the **Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple)**, compiled the **Adi Granth (1604 CE)**, and was martyred under Jahangir (1606); **Guru Hargobind** instituted **Miri and Piri** (temporal and spiritual swords) and built the **Akal Takht**; **Guru Tegh Bahadur** (9th Guru) was martyred under Aurangzeb (1675); and **Guru Gobind Singh (10th Guru)** founded the **Khalsa Panth on Vaisakhi (1699)** at Anandpur Sahib with the **Five Ks (*Panj Kakar*)** and declared the **Guru Granth Sahib** the eternal living Guru (NCERT).
Philosophical Foundations of Vedanta and Regional Bhakti Currents	**Sufi Mysticism (*Tasawwuf*) and Major *Silsilahs* (Orders)**	**Organized centered on a spiritual hospice (**Khanqah / Jama'at Khana**) led by a master (**Pir / Shaikh / Murshid**) who guides disciples (**Murids**) and designates a spiritual successor (**Khalifa**). Classified by Abul Fazl's *Ain-i-Akbari* into 14 *Silsilahs*, divided into** Ba-shara **(observing Islamic law) and** Be-shara* (*wandering* Qalandars *and* Madaris*):

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Guru Nanak Dev Ji & Sikh Tradition, and Sufi Silsilahs in India	**Chishti Silsilah**	Established in India at **Ajmer** by **Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti** (*Gharib Nawaz*, arrived c. 1192 CE); succeeded by **Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki** (Delhi), **Fariduddin Ganj-i-Shakar (Baba Farid)** of Ajodhan/Pakpattan (whose verses are incorporated in the *Guru Granth Sahib*), **Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya** (*Mahbub-i-Ilahi* of Delhi, who witnessed the reign of seven Sultans without ever visiting the royal court, practised **Sama** musical audition and *Habs-i-Dam* breath control, and whose conversations **Fawa'id-ul-Fu'ad** were recorded by Amir Hasan Sijzi alongside chief disciple **Amir Khusrau**), **Nasiruddin Chiragh-i-Dehlavi**, **Burhanuddin Gharib** (took Chishtiyya to Daulatabad), and **Khwaja Bande Nawaz Gesudaraz** of Gulbarga (NCERT).
Comparative Matrix of the Ten Sikh Gurus and Key Bhakti-Sufi Terminology	**Suhrawardi, Firdausi, Qadiri, and Naqshbandi Silsilahs**	**Bahauddin Zakariya** of Multan founded the **Suhrawardi** order in India (unlike Chishtis, Suhrawardis accepted royal *Jagirs* and state titles like *Shaikh-ul-Islam*); **Sharafuddin Yahya Maneri** led the **Firdausi** order in Bihar; **Mian Mir** (who laid the foundation stone of the Harmandir Sahib) and **Dara Shikoh** belonged to the **Qadiri** order; and **Khwaja Baqi Billah** and **Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi** (*Mujaddid-i-Alf-i-Sani* — orthodox critic of Akbar's syncretism and Ibn al-Arabi's *Wahdat-ul-Wujud*) led the **Naqshbandi** order (which strictly prohibited *Sama* music) (UPSC).
Philosophical Foundations of Vedanta and Regional Bhakti Currents	**Institutional Milestones Across the Ten Sikh Gurus (1469–1708 CE)**	The Sikh panth evolved from a peaceful devotional fellowship (*Nanak-panth*) into a disciplined socio-spiritual and martial commonwealth (*Khalsa*) in response to 17th-century Mughal persecution (NCERT):
Guru Nanak Dev Ji & Sikh Tradition, and Sufi Silsilahs in India	**Masand System**	Initiated under **Guru Amar Das** (22 *Manjis*) and institutionalized by **Guru Ram Das** and **Guru Arjan Dev** (where regional deputies called *Masands* collected voluntary **Dasvandh** — 1/10th tithe of income — for the central Guru's treasury), and later abolished by **Guru Gobind Singh** in 1699 when the *Masands* became corrupt (UPSC).

Chapter 5 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Adi Shankaracharya (8th–9th Century CE, Kaladi, Kerala)): Propounded **Advaita Vedanta** (Absolute Non-Dualism: *Brahma Satyam Jagat Mithya*, *Jivo Brahmaiva Naparah* — Brahman alone is ultimately real, the phenomenal world is illusory *Maya*, and the individual soul is identical with Brahman); established four cardinal **Mathas** at **Sringeri** (South), **Dwaraka** (West), **Puri** (East), and **Jyotirmath/Badrinath** (North) (Indian Culture Portal).

Statement-II (Ramanujacharya (1017–1137 CE, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu)): Propounded **Vishishtadvaita** (Qualified Non-Dualism: individual souls *Chit* and matter *Achit* are real attributes/modes of the Supreme Lord Vishnu/Narayana); emphasized *Prapatti* (unconditional self-surrender) and open devotion across castes.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Madhvacharya (13th Century, Udupi, Karnataka)): Propounded **Dvaita** (Strict Dualism: Five eternal distinctions *Pancha-Bheda* between God, souls, and matter; founded the *Brahma Sampradaya*).

Statement-II (Nimbarkacharya): (**Dvaitadvaita** / *Bhedabheda* — Dualistic Non-Dualism) and **Vallabhacharya** (**Shuddhadvaita** — Pure Non-Dualism and **Pushtimarg** grace path centred on Shrinathji/Krishna) (NCERT).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Ramananda (14th–15th Century)): Brought Bhakti from South to North India (Varanasi), substituting **Rama** for Vishnu and preaching in vernacular **Hindi** to twelve disciples from all social strata including **Kabir** (weaver), **Ravidas / Raidas** (cobbler), **Sena** (barber), **Dhanna** (Jat peasant), and **Sadhana** (butcher).

Statement-II (Kabir (15th Century)): Radical **Nirguna** mystic critic of both orthodox Brahmanical ritualism and Islamic formalism; his couplets (*Dohas* / *Sakhi*, *Sabad*, *Ramaini*) are preserved in the **Bijak**, **Kabir Granthavali**, and the **Adi Granth** (NCERT).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Saguna Vaishnava Poets): Tulsidas (authored *Ramcharitmanas*, *Vinaya Patrika*, *Kavitavali* in Awadhi/Braj during Akbar's reign), **Surdas** (blind disciple of Vallabhacharya, one of the *Ashtachhap* poets, authored *Sursagar*, *Sur Saravali*, *Sahitya Lahari* in Braj Bhasha), **Mirabai** (Rathore princess married into Mewar, composed passionate *Padavali* bhajans to Giridhar Gopal), **Chaitanya Mahaprabhu (1486–1533)** (popularized ecstatic *Sankirtana* congregational singing and *Achintya Bhedabheda* in Bengal and Odisha), **Srimanta Sankardeva (1449–1568)** (founded **Ekasarana Dharma** in Assam, establishing **Satras** and **Namghars**, and composing *Borgeets* and *Ankiya Naat* plays in *Brajavali*), and **Narsinh Mehta** (Gujarati author of "*Vaishnava Jana To*") (Indian Culture Portal).

Statement-II (Maharashtra Varkari & Dharakari Tradition (13th–17th Century)): Focused on **Vithoba (Vitthala) of Pandharpur** — **Sant Jnaneshwar (Dnyaneshwar)** (wrote *Jnaneshwari* / *Bhavartha Dipika* commentary on the Gita in Marathi at age 15 and *Amritanubhava*), **Namdev** (tailor saint whose Marathi and Hindi *Abhangas* are included in the Guru Granth Sahib), **Eknath** (popularized *Bharud* folk songs), **Tukaram** (contemporary of Shivaji, composed devotional *Abhangas*), and **Samarth Ramdas** (*Dharakari* saint, spiritual guide to Shivaji, authored **Dasbodh**) (NCERT).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Guru Nanak Dev Ji (1469–1539 CE) and the Ten Sikh Gurus): Born at **Talwandi (Nankana Sahib)** on the Ravi River; preached **Nirguna Ik Onkar** (One Formless Creator), rejected caste hierarchy and idol worship, and established **Sangat** (congregational fellowship) and **Panghat / Langar** (free community kitchen) at **Kartarpur**. **Guru Angad** standardized the **Gurmukhi script**; **Guru Amar Das** established 22 *Manjis*; **Guru Ram Das** founded **Amritsar (*Ramdaspur*)** on land granted by Akbar; **Guru Arjan Dev** constructed the **Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple)**, compiled the **Adi Granth (1604 CE)**, and was martyred under Jahangir (1606); **Guru Hargobind** instituted **Miri and Piri** (temporal and spiritual swords) and built the **Akal Takht**; **Guru Tegh Bahadur** (9th Guru) was martyred under Aurangzeb (1675); and **Guru Gobind Singh (10th Guru)** founded the **Khalsa Panth on Vaisakhi (1699)** at Anandpur Sahib with the **Five Ks (*Panj Kakar*)** and declared the **Guru Granth Sahib** the eternal living Guru (NCERT).

Statement-II (Sufi Mysticism (*Tasawwuf*) and Major *Silsilahs* (Orders)): Organized centered on a spiritual hospice (Khanqah / Jama'at Khana**) led by a master (**Pir / Shaikh / Murshid**) who guides disciples (**Murids**) and designates a spiritual successor (**Khalifa**). Classified by Abul Fazl's *Ain-i-Akbari* into 14 *Silsilahs*, divided into** Ba-shara **(observing Islamic law) and** Be-shara* (*wandering* Qalandars *and* Madaris*):

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Chishti Silsilah): Established in India at **Ajmer** by **Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti** (*Gharib Nawaz*, arrived c. 1192 CE); succeeded by **Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki** (Delhi), **Fariduddin Ganj-i-Shakar (Baba Farid)** of Ajodhan/Pakpattan (whose verses are incorporated in the *Guru Granth Sahib*), **Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya** (*Mahbub-i-Ilahi* of Delhi, who witnessed the reign of seven Sultans without ever visiting the royal court, practised **Sama** musical audition and *Habs-i-Dam* breath control, and whose conversations **Fawa'id-ul-Fu'ad** were recorded by Amir Hasan Sijzi alongside chief disciple **Amir Khusrau**), **Nasiruddin Chiragh-i-Dehlavi**, **Burhanuddin Gharib** (took Chishtiyya to Daulatabad), and **Khwaja Bande Nawaz Gesudaraz** of Gulbarga (NCERT).

Statement-II (Suhrawardi, Firdausi, Qadiri, and Naqshbandi Silsilahs): Bahauddin Zakariya of Multan founded the **Suhrawardi** order in India (unlike Chishtis, Suhrawardis accepted royal *Jagirs* and state titles like *Shaikh-ul-Islam*); **Sharafuddin Yahya Maneri** led the **Firdausi** order in Bihar; **Mian Mir** (who laid the foundation stone of the Harmandir Sahib) and **Dara Shikoh** belonged to the **Qadiri** order; and **Khwaja Baqi Billah** and **Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi** (*Mujaddid-i-Alf-i-Sani* — orthodox critic of Akbar's syncretism and Ibn al-Arabi's *Wahdat-ul-Wujud*) led the **Naqshbandi** order (which strictly prohibited *Sama* music) (UPSC).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *6:* Establishment of the Mughal Empire — Babur, Humayun, Sher Shah Suri's Reforms & Akbar the Great

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 6: Establishment of the Mughal Empire — Babur, Humayun, Sher Shah Suri's Reforms & Akbar the Great

Key Study Pillar 1
Babur (1526–1530 CE), Humayun (1530–1540, 1555–1556 CE), and Sher Shah Suri (1540–1545 CE)

Key Study Pillar 2
Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar (1556–1605 CE) — Expansion, Zabti System, Mansabdari & Sulh-i-Kul

Key Study Pillar 3
Structure of Central, Provincial (Subah), and District (Sarkar) Mughal Administration

6.1 Babur *(1526–1530* CE*)*, Humayun *(1530–1540, 1555–1556* CE*)*, and Sher Shah Suri *(1540–1545* CE*)*

• **Zahiruddin Muhammad Babur:** Descendant of Timur (paternal, 5th generation) and Genghis Khan (maternal, 14th generation) born in **Fergana (1483 CE)**. Using the Ottoman artillery tactics of **Rumi (Tulughma)** flanking cavalry and **Araba** (chained gun-carts manned by master gunners **Ustad Ali Quli** and **Mustafa**), Babur won four successive battles:

1. **First Battle of Panipat (21 April 1526):** Defeated **Ibrahim Lodi**.

2. **Battle of Khanwa (17 March 1527):** Defeated the Rajput confederacy led by **Rana Sanga of Mewar**, assuming the title **Ghazi**.

3. **Battle of Chanderi (January 1528):** Defeated **Medini Rai**.

4. **Battle of Ghaghra (May 1529):** Defeated the combined Afghan forces of Bihar and Bengal (**Mahmud Lodi** and **Nusrat Shah**).

• Babur authored his classic Chagatai Turkic autobiography **Tuzuk-i-Baburi (Baburnama)** (later translated into Persian by **Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khanan** under Akbar) and laid out geometric **Charbagh** gardens (NCERT).

• **Nasiruddin Muhammad Humayun and the Sur Interregnum:** Divided his inheritance among his brothers Kamran, Askari, and Hindal; built **Dinpanah** at Delhi; defeated Bahadur Shah of Gujarat (1535), but was defeated twice by the Afghan leader **Sher Khan (Sher Shah Suri)** — at the **Battle of Chausa (1539 CE)** and the **Battle of Kanauj / Bilgram (1540 CE)**. During his 15-year exile, **Akbar** was born at the Rajput fort of **Amarkot (Rana Prasad)** in **1542 CE**, and Humayun regained Delhi in **1555 CE** (Battles of Machhiwara and Sirhind) with Safavid Persian aid from Shah Tahmasp before dying in January 1556 from a fall down his *Sher Mandal* library stairs. His sister **Gulbadan Begum** authored the **Humayunnama** (ASI).

• **Sher Shah Suri (Farid Khan, 1540–1545 CE) — Administrative & Fiscal Architect:**

• Divided the empire into **47 Sarkars** (under *Shiqdar-i-Shiqdaran* for law/order and *Munsif-i-Munsifan* for revenue/civil justice) and **Parganas** (under *Shiqdar*, *Amin*/*Munsif*, *Fotadar* treasurer, and Hindi/Persian *Karkuns*).

• Instituted a scientific land revenue assessment based on measurement (*Sikandari Gaz* with hemp rope *Jarib*), classifying land into good, middling, and bad, fixing the state share at **one-third (1/3rd) of average produce** recorded in a **Ray (crop-rate schedule)**, and issuing title deeds (**Patta**) and peasant acceptance bonds (**Qabuliyat**), alongside a 2.5% famine relief cess in grain (NCERT).

• Reformed currency by abolishing mixed-metal coins and issuing the pure **Silver Rupiya (178 grains)** and copper **Dam** (1 Rupiya = 64 Dams), which remained the foundation of Mughal and British Indian currency until 1835.

• Restored the imperial highway **Sadak-i-Azam (Grand Trunk Road)** from Sonargaon (Bengal) to the Indus (Attock) lined with **1,700 Sarais** (fortified rest-houses that doubled as *Dak Chowki* postal relays), built the **Purana Qila** and *Qila-i-Kuhna Mosque* in Delhi, the **Rohtasgarh Fort**, and his magnificent octagonal **Mausoleum at Sasaram (Bihar)** in the middle of an artificial lake (ASI).

6.2 Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar *(1556–1605* CE*)* — Expansion, Zabti System, Mansabdari & Sulh-i-Kul

• **Consolidation and Conquests:** Crowned at **Kalanaur** (Punjab) at age 13 under regent **Bairam Khan**, who defeated **Hemu (Hemchandra Vikramaditya)** at the **Second Battle of Panipat (5 November 1556)**. After ending the *Petticoat Government* / *Maham Anga* regency (1560–62), Akbar annexed **Malwa** (Baz Bahadur, 1561), **Garha-Katanga / Gondwana** (defended heroically by **Rani Durgavati**, 1564), **Chittor** (1568, defended by Jaimal and Patta) and **Ranthambore** (1569), **Gujarat** (1572–73, commemorated by the **Buland Darwaza** at **Fatehpur Sikri**), **Bihar and Bengal** (1574–76), fought the **Battle of Haldighati (18 June 1576)** against **Maharana Pratap of Mewar** (where Raja Man Singh led the Mughal forces), annexed **Kabul, Kashmir, Sindh, Odisha, Baluchistan, and Qandahar**, and captured **Ahmadnagar** (defended by Chand Bibi) and **Asirgarh (Khandesh, 1601)** (NCERT).

• **Todar Mal's Bandobast — The Dahsala (Zabti) System (1580 CE):** Devised by Finance Minister (*Diwan-i-Ashraf*) **Raja Todar Mal**, land was measured using bamboo reeds joined with **iron rings (*Tanab*)** instead of shrinkable hemp ropes, divided into four fertility classes — **Polaj** (cultivated annually without fallow), **Parauti** (left fallow for 1–2 years to recover fertility), **Chachar** (left fallow for 3–4 years), and **Banjar** (uncultivated for 5+ years) — and assessed at **one-third (1/3rd) of the 10-year average yield and price (1570–1580)** converted into cash rates (**Dastur-ul-Amal**) (UPSC).

• **Religious Policy (*Sulh-i-Kul* — Universal Peace):** Abolished the pilgrimage tax (**1563**) and **Jizya (1564)**; built the **Ibadat Khana (House of Worship) at Fatehpur Sikri in 1575** (initially for Sunni theologians, opened in **1578** to Hindus — Purushottam & Devi; Jains — **Hiravijaya Suri** titled *Jagatguru*; Parsis — **Dastur Meherji Rana**; and Portuguese Jesuits — **Rodolfo Acquaviva & Antonio Monserrate**); issued the **Mahzar (Infallibility Decree, 1579)** drafted by Shaikh Mubarak making Akbar *Imam-i-Adil*; and promulgated **Tauhid-i-Ilahi / Din-i-Ilahi (1582)** (an ethical code of *Sulh-i-Kul*, of which **Birbal** was the only Hindu noble to formally join) (NCERT).

6.3 Structure of Central, Provincial *(Subah)*, and District *(Sarkar)* Mughal Administration

• **Central Ministerial Pillars under Akbar:** To prevent any single prime minister (*Wakil*) from monopolizing power as Bairam Khan had done, Akbar stripped the *Wakil* of financial and military control and distributed central executive power across four parallel ministers (NCERT):

1. **Diwan-i-Kul (Wazir):** Head of the Fiscal and Revenue Department (assisted by *Diwan-i-Khalisa*, *Diwan-i-Tan* for Jagirs/salaries, and *Mustaufi* auditor-general).

2. **Mir Bakhshi:** Head of the Military Department — passed *Mansabdari* appointment certificates (*Sarkhat*), supervised *Dagh* (branding) and *Chehra* (muster rolls), and served as Chief of Intelligence Officers (**Waqia-Navis**, **Sawanih-Nigar**, and **Khufia-Navis**).

3. **Mir Saman (Khan-i-Saman):** In charge of the Imperial Household, Royal Workshops (**Karkhanas**), stores, and protocol.

4. **Sadr-us-Sudur (Qazi-ul-Quzzat):** Chief Ecclesiastical Officer managing charitable land grants (**Madad-i-Ma'ash / Suyurghal**) and Chief Justice of the Empire (UPSC).

Administrative Tier	Territorial Unit	Executive / Military Head	Revenue & Financial Head	Judicial / Police / Record Officials	Official Source
Province (15 under Akbar, 21 under Aurangzeb)	**Subah**	**Sipahsalar / Subahdar (Nazim)**	**Diwan-i-Subah** (directly subordinate to Central Diwan, checking the Subahdar)	*Bakhshi*, *Sadr*, *Qazi*, **Kotwal** (urban police chief)	NCERT
District	**Sarkar**	**Faujdar** (Law, order, and military enforcement)	**Amalguzar (Amil)** (Assessment & collection of revenue)	*Bitikchi* (record-keeper), *Khazandar* (treasurer), *Qazi*	NCERT
Sub-District	**Pargana (Mahal)**	**Shiqdar** (Executive & police officer)	**Amin** & **Fotadar** (Revenue assessment & Pargana treasury)	**Qanungo** (hereditary keeper of land schedules & past yields)	UPSC
Village	**Mawda / Deh** (with small hamlets called *Nagla*)	**Muqaddam / Khut** (Village Headman)	**Patwari** (Village Accountant maintaining *Bahi* registers)	*Chaukidar* (village watchman)	IUC Academy

• **Akbar's 1580 Organization of Twelve (Later Fifteen) Subahs:** In 1580, Akbar partitioned the empire into **12 Subahs — Allahabad, Agra, Awadh, Ajmer, Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Bihar, Bengal, Delhi, Kabul, Lahore, Multan, and Malwa** — to which **Berar, Khandesh (Dandesh), and Ahmadnagar** were added after his Deccan campaigns, bringing the total to **15 Subahs** (NCERT).

• **Akbar's Social and Educational Reforms:** Prohibited enslaving prisoners of war (1562), legalized widow remarriage, discouraged child marriage (fixing minimum marriage age at **14 for girls and 16 for boys**), forbade forcible *Sati* against a widow's will, and updated the Madrasa curriculum with secular subjects including **morals (*Akhlaq*), arithmetic, geometry, agriculture, mensuration, astronomy, and logic** under **Fathullah Shirazi** (NCERT).

• **Evolution of the *Ilahi Gaz* and *Ilahi Era*:** In **1584**, Akbar introduced the solar **Tarikh-i-Ilahi (Ilahi Era)** (retrospectively dated to his accession in 1556) and standardized the **41-digit *Ilahi Gaz*** (~33 inches) in 1588 to replace Sikandar Lodi's 32-digit *Gaz-i-Sikandari* (UPSC).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Babur's Triumph at Panipat (1526) & Khanwa (1527) using Tulughma-Araba Tactics

STEP 2
Sher Shah Suri's Afghan Interregnum (1540–1545: Patta-Qabuliyat, 178-grain Silver Rupiya & Grand Trunk Road)

STEP 3
Akbar's Victory at 2nd Panipat (1556), Rajput Matrimonial-Mansabdari Alliance & Todar Mal's Dahsala System (1580)

STEP 4
Imperial Integration of 15 Subahs under Sulh-i-Kul, Ibadat Khana Dialogues & Maktab Khana Translations

Mughal Land / Administrative Term	Category	Technical Definition & Operational Mechanism	Associated Ruler / Reformer	Official Reference
Polaj, Parauti, Chachar, Banjar	Agrarian Land Classification	*Polaj* (annual crop), *Parauti* (1–2 yr fallow), *Chachar* (3–4 yr fallow), *Banjar* (5+ yr fallow)	**Akbar & Raja Todar Mal** (*Ain-i-Dahsala*, 1580)	NCERT
Zabti, Batai (Ghallabakhshi), Nasaq (Kankut)	Revenue Assessment Modes	*Zabti*: Measurement & cash schedules (*Dasturs*); *Batai*: Crop-sharing; *Nasaq*/*Kankut*: Rough summary estimation based on past yields	Sher Shah Suri & Akbar	UPSC
Zat & Sawar (Mansabdari, c. 1571–95)	Dual Military-Civil Rank	**Zat**: Personal status, hierarchy, and salary scale of the noble; **Sawar**: Number of cavalry troopers the Mansabdar had to maintain	**Akbar** (Decimal system from 10 to 10,000)	NCERT
Khalisa, Jagir, Paibaqi & Madad-i-Ma'ash	Fiscal Territory Division	*Khalisa*: Crown land paying directly to Imperial Treasury; *Jagir*: Assigned to Mansabdars; *Paibaqi*: Unassigned land reserved for future Jagirs; *Madad-i-Ma'ash* / *Suyurghal*: Tax-free charity grants	Mughal Fiscal System	NCERT
Maktab Khana (Translation Bureau)	Cultural Synthesis at Fatehpur Sikri	Translated *Mahabharata* as **Razmnama** ("Book of Wars"), *Ramayana* (by Badauni), *Atharvaveda*, *Lilavati* (by Faizi), and *Panchatantra* (*Anwar-i-Suhaili*) into Persian	**Akbar** (Chronicled by **Abul Fazl** in *Akbarnama* & *Ain-i-Akbari*)	National Museum

Did You Know?: In **Abul Fazl's *Ain-i-Akbari*** (the third volume of the *Akbarnama*), Mansabdars were categorized into **three classes** within any given *Zat* rank: **First Class** (where *Sawar* equalled *Zat*), **Second Class** (where *Sawar* was at least half of *Zat*), and **Third Class** (where *Sawar* was less than half of *Zat*); under no circumstance could a Mansabdar's *Sawar* rank exceed his *Zat* rank during Akbar's reign (NCERT).

Exam Trap Alert: The **Mansabdari system** was **NOT** hereditary — upon a Mansabdar's death, his *Jagir* was resumed and his accumulated movable property was confiscated by the state under the law of **Escheat (*Zabt*)**. Furthermore, **Jagirdars** only held the right to collect the authorized land revenue from their assigned *Jagir* (which was transferred every 3–4 years to prevent local autonomy), while police and judicial authority remained with royal officials (UPSC).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the chronological sequence of Akbar's key religious and administrative milestones using **"P-J-I-M-D-D"** — **P**ilgrimage tax abolished (**1563**) -> **J**izya abolished (**1564**) -> **I**badat Khana built (**1575**) -> **M**ahzar issued (**1579**) -> **D**ahsala instituted (**1580**) -> **D**in-i-Ilahi proclaimed (**1582**) (IUC Academy).

Chapter *6* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Babur (1526–1530 CE), Humayun (1530–1540, 1555–1556 CE), and Sher Shah Suri (1540–1545 CE)	**Zahiruddin Muhammad Babur**	Descendant of Timur (paternal, 5th generation) and Genghis Khan (maternal, 14th generation) born in **Fergana (1483 CE)**. Using the Ottoman artillery tactics of **Rumi (Tulughma)** flanking cavalry and **Araba** (chained gun-carts manned by master gunners **Ustad Ali Quli** and **Mustafa**), Babur won four successive battles:
Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar (1556–1605 CE) — Expansion, Zabti System, Mansabdari & Sulh-i-Kul	**First Battle of Panipat (21 April 1526)**	Defeated **Ibrahim Lodi**.
Structure of Central, Provincial (Subah), and District (Sarkar) Mughal Administration	**Battle of Khanwa (17 March 1527)**	Defeated the Rajput confederacy led by **Rana Sanga of Mewar**, assuming the title **Ghazi**.
Babur (1526–1530 CE), Humayun (1530–1540, 1555–1556 CE), and Sher Shah Suri (1540–1545 CE)	**Battle of Chanderi (January 1528)**	Defeated **Medini Rai**.
Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar (1556–1605 CE) — Expansion, Zabti System, Mansabdari & Sulh-i-Kul	**Battle of Ghaghra (May 1529)**	Defeated the combined Afghan forces of Bihar and Bengal (**Mahmud Lodi** and **Nusrat Shah**).
Structure of Central, Provincial (Subah), and District (Sarkar) Mughal Administration	**Nasiruddin Muhammad Humayun and the Sur Interregnum**	Divided his inheritance among his brothers Kamran, Askari, and Hindal; built **Dinpanah** at Delhi; defeated Bahadur Shah of Gujarat (1535), but was defeated twice by the Afghan leader **Sher Khan (Sher Shah Suri)** — at the **Battle of Chausa (1539 CE)** and the **Battle of Kanauj / Bilgram (1540 CE)**. During his 15-year exile, **Akbar** was born at the Rajput fort of **Amarkot (Rana Prasad)** in **1542 CE**, and Humayun regained Delhi in **1555 CE** (Battles of Machhiwara and Sirhind) with Safavid Persian aid from Shah Tahmasp before dying in January 1556 from a fall down his *Sher Mandal* library stairs. His sister **Gulbadan Begum** authored the **Humayunnama** (ASI).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Babur (1526–1530 CE), Humayun (1530–1540, 1555–1556 CE), and Sher Shah Suri (1540–1545 CE)	**Consolidation and Conquests**	Crowned at **Kalanaur** (Punjab) at age 13 under regent **Bairam Khan**, who defeated **Hemu (Hemchandra Vikramaditya)** at the **Second Battle of Panipat (5 November 1556)**. After ending the *Petticoat Government* / *Maham Anga* regency (1560–62), Akbar annexed **Malwa** (Baz Bahadur, 1561), **Garha-Katanga / Gondwana** (defended heroically by **Rani Durgavati**, 1564), **Chittor** (1568, defended by Jaimal and Patta) and **Ranthambore** (1569), **Gujarat** (1572–73, commemorated by the **Buland Darwaza** at **Fatehpur Sikri**), **Bihar and Bengal** (1574–76), fought the **Battle of Haldighati (18 June 1576)** against **Maharana Pratap of Mewar** (where Raja Man Singh led the Mughal forces), annexed **Kabul, Kashmir, Sindh, Odisha, Baluchistan, and Qandahar**, and captured **Ahmadnagar** (defended by Chand Bibi) and **Asirgarh (Khandesh, 1601)** (NCERT).
Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar (1556–1605 CE) — Expansion, Zabti System, Mansabdari & Sulh-i-Kul	**Todar Mal's Bandobast — The Dahsala (Zabti) System (1580 CE)**	Devised by Finance Minister (*Diwan-i-Ashraf*) **Raja Todar Mal**, land was measured using bamboo reeds joined with **iron rings (*Tanab*)** instead of shrinkable hemp ropes, divided into four fertility classes — **Polaj** (cultivated annually without fallow), **Parauti** (left fallow for 1–2 years to recover fertility), **Chachar** (left fallow for 3–4 years), and **Banjar** (uncultivated for 5+ years) — and assessed at **one-third (1/3rd) of the 10-year average yield and price (1570–1580)** converted into cash rates (**Dastur-ul-Amal**) (UPSC).
Structure of Central, Provincial (Subah), and District (Sarkar) Mughal Administration	**Religious Policy (*Sulh-i-Kul* — Universal Peace)**	**Abolished the pilgrimage tax (**1563**) and** Jizya (1564)**; built the** Ibadat Khana (House of Worship) at Fatehpur Sikri in 1575 **(initially for Sunni theologians, opened in** 1578 **to Hindus — Purushottam & Devi; Jains —** Hiravijaya Suri **titled *Jagatguru*; Parsis —** Dastur Meherji Rana**; and Portuguese Jesuits —** Rodolfo Acquaviva & Antonio Monserrate**); issued the** Mahzar (Infallibility Decree, 1579) **drafted by Shaikh Mubarak making Akbar *Imam-i-Adil*; and promulgated** Tauhid-i-Ilahi / Din-i-Ilahi (1582) **(an ethical code of *Sulh-i-Kul*, of which** Birbal** was the only Hindu noble to formally join) (NCERT).
Babur (1526–1530 CE), Humayun (1530–1540, 1555–1556 CE), and Sher Shah Suri (1540–1545 CE)	**Central Ministerial Pillars under Akbar**	To prevent any single prime minister (*Wakil*) from monopolizing power as Bairam Khan had done, Akbar stripped the *Wakil* of financial and military control and distributed central executive power across four parallel ministers (NCERT):
Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar (1556–1605 CE) — Expansion, Zabti System, Mansabdari & Sulh-i-Kul	**Diwan-i-Kul (Wazir)**	Head of the Fiscal and Revenue Department (assisted by *Diwan-i-Khalisa*, *Diwan-i-Tan* for Jagirs/salaries, and *Mustaufi* auditor-general).
Structure of Central, Provincial (Subah), and District (Sarkar) Mughal Administration	**Mir Bakhshi**	Head of the Military Department — passed *Mansabdari* appointment certificates (*Sarkhat*), supervised *Dagh* (branding) and *Chehra* (muster rolls), and served as Chief of Intelligence Officers (**Waqia-Navis**, **Sawanih-Nigar**, and **Khufia-Navis**).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Babur (1526–1530 CE), Humayun (1530–1540, 1555–1556 CE), and Sher Shah Suri (1540–1545 CE)	**Mir Saman (Khan-i-Saman)**	In charge of the Imperial Household, Royal Workshops (**Karkhanas**), stores, and protocol.
Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar (1556–1605 CE) — Expansion, Zabti System, Mansabdari & Sulh-i-Kul	**Sadr-us-Sudur (Qazi-ul-Quzzat)**	Chief Ecclesiastical Officer managing charitable land grants (**Madad-i-Ma'ash / Suyurghal**) and Chief Justice of the Empire (UPSC).

Chapter *6* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Zahiruddin Muhammad Babur): Descendant of Timur (paternal, 5th generation) and Genghis Khan (maternal, 14th generation) born in **Fergana (1483 CE)**. Using the Ottoman artillery tactics of **Rumi (Tulughma)** flanking cavalry and **Araba** (chained gun-carts manned by master gunners **Ustad Ali Quli** and **Mustafa**), Babur won four successive battles:

Statement-II (First Battle of Panipat (21 April 1526)): Defeated **Ibrahim Lodi**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Battle of Khanwa (17 March 1527)): Defeated the Rajput confederacy led by **Rana Sanga of Mewar**, assuming the title **Ghazi**.

Statement-II (Battle of Chanderi (January 1528)): Defeated **Medini Rai**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Battle of Ghaghra (May 1529)): Defeated the combined Afghan forces of Bihar and Bengal (**Mahmud Lodi** and **Nusrat Shah**).

Statement-II (Nasiruddin Muhammad Humayun and the Sur Interregnum): Divided his inheritance among his brothers Kamran, Askari, and Hindal; built **Dinpanah** at Delhi; defeated Bahadur Shah of Gujarat (1535), but was defeated twice by the Afghan leader **Sher Khan (Sher Shah Suri)** — at the **Battle of Chausa (1539 CE)** and the **Battle of Kanauj / Bilgram (1540 CE)**. During his 15-year exile, **Akbar** was born at the Rajput fort of **Amarkot (Rana Prasad)** in **1542 CE**, and Humayun regained Delhi in **1555 CE** (Battles of Machhiwara and Sirhind) with Safavid Persian aid from Shah Tahmasp before dying in January 1556 from a fall down his *Sher Mandal* library stairs. His sister **Gulbadan Begum** authored the **Humayunnama** (ASI).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Consolidation and Conquests): Crowned at **Kalanaur** (Punjab) at age 13 under regent **Bairam Khan**, who defeated **Hemu (Hemchandra Vikramaditya)** at the **Second Battle of Panipat (5 November 1556)**. After ending the *Petticoat Government* / *Maham Anga* regency (1560–62), Akbar annexed **Malwa** (Baz Bahadur, 1561), **Garha-Katanga / Gondwana** (defended heroically by **Rani Durgavati**, 1564), **Chittor** (1568, defended by Jaimal and Patta) and **Ranthambore** (1569), **Gujarat** (1572–73, commemorated by the **Buland Darwaza** at **Fatehpur Sikri**), **Bihar and Bengal** (1574–76), fought the **Battle of Haldighati (18 June 1576)** against **Maharana Pratap of Mewar** (where Raja Man Singh led the Mughal forces), annexed **Kabul, Kashmir, Sindh, Odisha, Baluchistan, and Qandahar**, and captured **Ahmadnagar** (defended by Chand Bibi) and **Asirgarh (Khandesh, 1601)** (NCERT).

Statement-II (Todar Mal's Bandobast — The Dahsala (Zabti) System (1580 CE)): Devised by Finance Minister (*Diwan-i-Ashraf*) **Raja Todar Mal**, land was measured using bamboo reeds joined with **iron rings (*Tanab*)** instead of shrinkable hemp ropes, divided into four fertility classes — **Polaj** (cultivated annually without fallow), **Parauti** (left fallow for 1–2 years to recover fertility), **Chachar** (left fallow for 3–4 years), and **Banjar** (uncultivated for 5+ years) — and assessed at **one-third (1/3rd) of the 10-year average yield and price (1570–1580)** converted into cash rates (**Dastur-ul-Amal**) (UPSC).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Religious Policy (*Sulh-i-Kul* — Universal Peace)): Abolished the pilgrimage tax (1563) and Jizya (1564)**; built the** Ibadat Khana (House of Worship) at Fatehpur Sikri in 1575 **(initially for Sunni theologians, opened in** 1578 **to Hindus — Purushottam & Devi; Jains —** Hiravijaya Suri **titled *Jagatguru*; Parsis —** Dastur Meherji Rana**; and Portuguese Jesuits —** Rodolfo Acquaviva & Antonio Monserrate**); issued the** Mahzar (Infallibility Decree, 1579) **drafted by Shaikh Mubarak making Akbar *Imam-i-Adil*; and promulgated** Tauhid-i-Ilahi / Din-i-Ilahi (1582) **(an ethical code of *Sulh-i-Kul*, of which** Birbal** was the only Hindu noble to formally join) (NCERT).

Statement-II (Central Ministerial Pillars under Akbar): To prevent any single prime minister (*Wakil*) from monopolizing power as Bairam Khan had done, Akbar stripped the *Wakil* of financial and military control and distributed central executive power across four parallel ministers (NCERT):

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Diwan-i-Kul (Wazir)): Head of the Fiscal and Revenue Department (assisted by *Diwan-i-Khalisa*, *Diwan-i-Tan* for Jagirs/salaries, and *Mustaufi* auditor-general).

Statement-II (Mir Bakhshi): Head of the Military Department — passed *Mansabdari* appointment certificates (*Sarkhat*), supervised *Dagh* (branding) and *Chehra* (muster rolls), and served as Chief of Intelligence Officers (**Waqia-Navis**, **Sawanih-Nigar**, and **Khufia-Navis**).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7: Climax & Crisis of the Mughal Empire — Jahangir, Shah Jahan, Aurangzeb, Mansabdari & Jagirdari

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 7: Climax & Crisis of the Mughal Empire — Jahangir, Shah Jahan, Aurangzeb, Mansabdari & Jagirdari

Key Study Pillar 1
Jahangir (1605–1627 CE) and Shah Jahan (1628–1658 CE)

Key Study Pillar 2
Muhiuddin Muhammad Aurangzeb "Alamgir" (1658–1707 CE) and Imperial Crisis

Key Study Pillar 3
Agrarian Structure (Khud-Kashta, Pahi-Kashta, Muzarian) and Mughal Monetary System

7.1 Jahangir *(1605–1627* CE*)* and Shah Jahan *(1628–1658* CE*)*

• **Nuruddin Muhammad Jahangir (Prince Salim):**

• Installed the **Zanjir-i-Adl** (golden "Chain of Justice" with 60 bells) between the Shahburj of Agra Fort and the Yamuna bank and issued **12 Ordinances (*Dastur-ul-Amal*)** upon accession.

• Crushed the rebellion of his eldest son **Prince Khusrau (1606)** and executed the fifth Sikh Guru, **Guru Arjan Dev Ji**, for blessing Khusrau; concluded the **Mewar Peace Treaty (1615 CE)** with **Rana Amar Singh** (son of Maharana Pratap), restoring Chittor on the condition that it would not be fortified and exempting the Rana from personal attendance at court; and faced the brilliant guerrilla tactics of **Malik Ambar** in Ahmadnagar (NCERT).

• Married **Mehr-un-Nisa (Nur Jahan, 1611)**, who formed the influential *Nur Jahan Junta* (alongside her father **Itimad-ud-Daulah / Mirza Ghiyas Beg**, brother **Asaf Khan**, and Prince Khurram), having her name struck on coins and *Farmans*.

• Received two English East India Company envoys at court: **Captain William Hawkins (1608–1611)** (who conversed with Jahangir in Turkic and received a Mansab of 400) and **Sir Thomas Roe (1615–1619)** (official ambassador of King James I, who secured imperial *Farmans* for English factories at Surat).

• Modified the Mansabdari system by introducing the **Du-Aspa Sih-Aspa** ("two-horse, three-horse") system, allowing favoured nobles to maintain double or triple the cavalry quota without raising their *Zat* rank.

• Brought **Mughal Miniature Painting** to its zenith (introducing **halo portraits**, album margins, and naturalistic flora-fauna studies under masters **Ustad Mansur** [*Nadir-ul-Asr*], **Abul Hasan** [*Nadir-uz-Zaman*], **Bishandas**, and **Manohar**), authored his Persian memoirs **Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri**, and saw the first all-white marble Mughal building adorned with **Pietra Dura (*Parchin Kari*)** floral inlay in the **Tomb of Itimad-ud-Daulah** at Agra (National Museum).

• **Shahabuddin Muhammad Shah Jahan (Prince Khurram, 1628–1658 CE):**

• Annexed **Ahmadnagar (1633)** and forced **Bijapur and Golconda** to sign treaties of submission (**1636**); expelled the Portuguese from **Hugli (1632)**; launched the costly **Balkh and Badakhshan Campaign (1646–47)**; and permanently lost **Qandahar** to Safavid Persia in **1649**.

• Reformed the Mansabdari system via the **Month-Scale (*Mahwar* — e.g., *Shash-Maha* or *Si-Maha*)** to bridge the widening gap between official assessed revenue (**Jama / Jama-dami**) and actual collected revenue (**Hasil**), reducing the cavalry obligations proportionately (NCERT).

• Presided over the **Golden Age of Mughal Architecture**, constructing the **Taj Mahal** at Agra (designed by chief architect **Ustad Ahmad Lahori** in memory of **Mumtaz Mahal**), the new walled capital **Shahjahanabad (1638–48)** featuring the **Red Fort (*Lal Qila*)**, **Jama Masjid**, and the jewel-encrusted **Peacock Throne (*Takht-i-Taus*)**, as well as the **Moti Masjid** inside Agra Fort (ASI).

7.2 Muhiuddin Muhammad Aurangzeb "Alamgir" (1658–1707 CE) and Imperial Crisis

• **War of Succession (1657–1659 CE):** Defeated his brothers **Shah Shuja** (Battle of Bahadurpur), **Dara Shikoh** — a liberal scholar who translated 52 Upanishads into Persian as **Sirr-i-Akbar** ("The Greatest Mystery") and authored **Majma-ul-Bahrain** ("Confluence of the Two Oceans") — at the **Battles of Dharmat (April 1658), Samugarh (May 1658), and Deorai (April 1659)**, and **Murad Bakhsh**, while imprisoning Shah Jahan in Agra Fort until 1666 (NCERT).

• **Orthodox Policies and Agrarian Rebellions:** Assumed the title **Alamgir** and lived austerely as **Zinda Pir** ("Living Saint"); discontinued the *Ilahi* calendar, *Nauroz*, *Jharokha Darshan* (balcony appearance), *Tuladan* (weighing the emperor in gold), and court musicians (though ironically the **largest number of Persian treatises on Indian classical music** were written during his reign, and he personally played the **Veena**); appointed **Muhtasibs** (censors of public morals); demolished temples at Mathura and Varanasi (1669); **re-imposed Jizya in 1679 CE**; and compiled the authoritative Hanafi legal digest **Fatawa-i-Alamgiri**. These measures, coupled with agrarian pressure, triggered revolts by the **Jats of Mathura** (Gokula, Rajaram, Churaman), **Satnamis of Narnaul (1672)**, **Bundelas** (Chhatrasal), **Sikhs**, **Rathore Rajputs of Marwar** (led by **Durgadas Rathore** after the death of Jaswant Singh in 1678), and the **Marathas** (NCERT).

• **Eastern and Deccan Campaigns & the Jagirdari Crisis:** General **Mir Jumla** campaigned in Assam (Treaty of Ghilajharighat, 1663), though the **Ahoms** under **Lachit Borphukan** decisively defeated the Mughals at the naval **Battle of Saraighat (1671)**; **Shaista Khan** captured **Chittagong (1666)**. Spending the final 26 years of his life (1681–1707) in the Deccan, Aurangzeb annexed **Bijapur (1686)** and **Golconda (1687)** and executed **Chhatrapati Sambhaji (1689)** — bringing the Mughal Empire to its **maximum territorial extent (21 Subahs)** and featuring the **highest proportion of Hindu (especially Maratha and Rajput) Mansabdars (~33%)** in Mughal history, while exhausting the treasury and causing the acute **Be-Jagiri (shortage of *Paibaqi* Jagir land) Crisis** before his death at Ahmadnagar in **1707** (UPSC).

7.3 Agrarian Structure (Khud-Kashta, Pahi-Kashta, Muzarian) and Mughal Monetary System

• **Three Tiers of Mughal Peasantry:** Village society in the 16th–17th centuries was economically stratified rather than egalitarian (NCERT):

1. **Khud-Kashta (*Mirasi* in Maharashtra, *Gharuhala* in Rajasthan):** Resident peasant-proprietors who cultivated their own hereditary village land using their own bullocks and ploughs, paid revenue at customary rates, and dominated the village Panchayat.

2. **Pahi-Kashta:** Non-resident / migratory cultivators who belonged to one village but contracted to cultivate land in another village (often attracted by concessional revenue rates on newly reclaimed *Banjar* land or driven by famine).

3. **Muzarian:** Sharecroppers and tenant-cultivators who rented land or ploughs from *Khud-Kashta* peasants or *Zamindars*.

• **Zamindari Rights (*Milkiyat*):** *Zamindars* held private hereditary lands (**Milkiyat** cultivated through hired labour) and collected revenue on behalf of the state in exchange for a 10% share (**Nankar / Malikana** in Northern India, **Banthon** in Gujarat) (NCERT).

Mughal Coin / Commercial Term	Metal & Standard Weight	Functional Role in the 17th-Century Economy	Associated Official / Institution	Official Source
Muhar (Ashrafi)	**Pure Gold** (~169–170 grains)	Used primarily for ceremonial hoarding, royal gifts, and high-value luxury transactions	Issued from imperial mints (*Dar-ul-Zarb*) under *Darogha*	National Museum
Rupiya (Silver Rupee)	**Pure Silver** (178 grains under Akbar, 180 grains under Aurangzeb; alloy < 4%)	Standard medium of exchange and tax payment; newly minted coins called **Taza-Sikka (Chalani)** vs. older discounted **Khazana** coins	Assayed for purity by money-changers (**Sarrafs / Shroffs**)	NCERT
Dam (Paisa) & Jital	**Copper** (323–380 grains; **40 Dams = 1 Silver Rupiya** under Akbar)	Used for petty daily market transactions and calculating *Jama-dami* salaries of Mansabdars	Subdivided into *Adhela* (1/2 Dam) and *Paila* (1/4 Dam)	UPSC
Hundi & Dadni System	Commercial Bill of Exchange & Cash Advance	*Hundi*: Paper bill of exchange issued by *Sarrafs* (including insurance **Bima**); *Dadni*: Cash advances given by merchants to weavers/artisans	Led by merchant princes like **Virji Vora** (Surat), **Malaya Chetti** (Coromandel), & **Abdul Ghafur**	IUC Academy

• **Categorization of Mughal Nobility:** High Mansabdars were designated according to rank: those holding **10 to 400 Zat** were called **Mansabdars**, those holding **500 to 2,500 Zat** were styled **Amirs**, and those holding **3,000 Zat and above** were honoured as **Amir-i-Umda (Umda-i-Azam)**, drawn from four ethnic groups — **Turanis** (Central Asian Turks), **Iranis** (Persians), **Afghans**, and **Hindustanis** (Rajputs, Marathas, and Shaikhzadas) (NCERT).

• **Watan Jagir vs. Tankhwah Jagir:** While normal **Tankhwah Jagirs** (salary assignments) were transferable every 3 to 4 years across the empire, Rajput and autonomous rajas inducted into the Mansabdari system retained their ancestral homelands as **Watan Jagirs**, which were **hereditary and non-transferable** (though the Emperor claimed the right to arbitrate disputed successions via *Tika*) (NCERT).

• **Regional Schools of Pahari and Rajasthani Miniature Painting:** As imperial patronage declined under Aurangzeb, court artists migrated to regional courts, catalyzing the **Rajasthani Schools** (**Mewar** [Sahibdin], **Marwar**, **Bundi-Kota** [hunting scenes], **Kishangarh** [Nihal Chand's iconic **Bani Thani** under Savant Singh *Nagari Das*], and **Amber-Jaipur**) and **Pahari Schools** (**Basohli**, **Guler**, and **Kangra** [Nainsukh and Manaku]) (National Museum).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Jahangir's Du-Aspa Sih-Aspa Rank Reform, Mewar Treaty (1615) & Zenith of Mughal Miniature Painting

STEP 2
Shah Jahan's Month-Scale (Mahwar) Adjustment, Shahjahanabad-Taj Mahal Architecture & War of Succession (1658)

STEP 3
Aurangzeb's Re-imposition of Jizya (1679), Rajput-Jat-Sikh Rebellions & 26-Year Deccan Ulcer (1681–1707)

STEP 4
Annexation of Bijapur (1686) & Golconda (1687), Be-Jagiri Fiscal Crisis & Post-1707 Imperial Disintegration

Mughal Emperor	Key Mansabdari / Administrative Feature	Major Architectural Monuments	Official Court Chronicler / Foreign Travellers	Official Reference
Akbar (1556–1605)	Introduced *Zat & Sawar* (1571/95); *Ain-i-Dahsala* (1580); 15 *Subahs*	Humayun's Tomb (by Haji Begum), Agra Fort, **Fatehpur Sikri** (*Buland Darwaza*, *Panch Mahal*, *Tomb of Salim Chishti*)	**Abul Fazl** (*Akbarnama*), Badauni (*Muntakhab-ut-Tawarikh*), Nizamuddin Ahmad; Father Monserrate, **Ralph Fitch**	ASI
Jahangir (1605–1627)	Introduced **Du-Aspa Sih-Aspa**; *Altamgha* hereditary homeland grants	**Akbar's Tomb (Sikandra)**, **Tomb of Itimad-ud-Daulah** (Agra — first *Pietra Dura*), Shalimar Bagh (Srinagar)	*Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*; **William Hawkins, Thomas Roe, Francisco Pelsaert** (Dutch), Pietro Della Valle	National Museum
Shah Jahan (1628–1658)	Introduced **Month-Scale (*Mahwar*)** based on *Jama-Hasil* ratio	**Taj Mahal**, **Red Fort & Jama Masjid (Delhi)**, **Moti Masjid (Agra)**, Shalimar Gardens (Lahore)	**Abdul Hamid Lahori** (*Padshahnama*), Inayat Khan (*Shahjahannama*); **Jean-Baptiste Tavernier** (diamond merchant), **Peter Mundy**	ASI
Aurangzeb (1658–1707)	Introduced **Mashrut** (conditional) rank; *21 Subahs*; **33% Hindu Mansabdars**	**Moti Masjid (inside Delhi Red Fort)**, **Badshahi Mosque (Lahore)**, **Bibi Ka Maqbara (Aurangabad, 1679)**	**Mirza Muhammad Kazim** (*Alamgirnama* — first 10 yrs), **Saqi Mustaid Khan** (*Ma'asir-i-Alamgiri*), **Khafi Khan**; **Francois Bernier**, **Niccolao Manucci**	NCERT

Did You Know?: French physician **Francois Bernier** (who served Dara Shikoh and Aurangzeb's noble Danishmand Khan for 12 years and authored *Travels in the Mughal Empire*) attributed the lack of private agricultural improvement in Mughal India to **crown ownership of land** and the frequent transfer of *Jagirs*, whereas Italian artilleryman-turned-physician **Niccolao Manucci** stayed in India until his death and authored the four-volume **Storia do Mogor** (NCERT).

Exam Trap Alert: Two classic exam traps regarding **Aurangzeb**: first, despite his orthodox policies and ban on court music, **Aurangzeb employed the highest percentage of Hindu Mansabdars (~33% of the nobility, compared to ~22.5% under Akbar)** due to the large-scale induction of Maratha and Deccani nobles after 1686; second, there are **two Moti Masjids** — the **Moti Masjid in Agra Fort** was built by **Shah Jahan**, whereas the **Moti Masjid inside the Red Fort in Delhi** was built by **Aurangzeb** (UPSC).

★ **Memory Trick:** Match the Mansabdari innovations to their exact Mughal Emperors using **"A-Z, J-D, S-M, A-M"** — **A**kbar = **Z**at & Sawar, **J**ahangir = **D**u-Aspa Sih-Aspa, **S**hah Jahan = **M**onth-Scale (*Mahwar*), **A**urangzeb = **M**ashrut (conditional rank) (IUC Academy).

Chapter 7 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Jahangir (1605–1627 CE) and Shah Jahan (1628–1658 CE)	**Received two English East India Company envoys at court**	**Captain William Hawkins (1608–1611)** (who conversed with Jahangir in Turkic and received a Mansab of 400) and **Sir Thomas Roe (1615–1619)** (official ambassador of King James I, who secured imperial *Farmans* for English factories at Surat).
Muhiuddin Muhammad Aurangzeb "Alamgir" (1658–1707 CE) and Imperial Crisis	**War of Succession (1657–1659 CE)**	Defeated his brothers **Shah Shuja** (Battle of Bahadurpur), **Dara Shikoh** — a liberal scholar who translated 52 Upanishads into Persian as **Sirr-i-Akbar** ("The Greatest Mystery") and authored **Majma-ul-Bahrain** ("Confluence of the Two Oceans") — at the **Battles of Dharmat (April 1658), Samugarh (May 1658), and Deorai (April 1659)**, and **Murad Bakhsh**, while imprisoning Shah Jahan in Agra Fort until 1666 (NCERT).
Agrarian Structure (Khud-Kashta, Pahi-Kashta, Muzarian) and Mughal Monetary System	**Orthodox Policies and Agrarian Rebellions**	Assumed the title **Alamgir** and lived austerely as **Zinda Pir** ("Living Saint"); discontinued the *Ilahi* calendar, *Nauroz*, *Jharokha Darshan* (balcony appearance), *Tuladan* (weighing the emperor in gold), and court musicians (though ironically the **largest number of Persian treatises on Indian classical music** were written during his reign, and he personally played the **Veena**); appointed **Muhtasibs** (censors of public morals); demolished temples at Mathura and Varanasi (1669); **re-imposed Jizya in 1679 CE**; and compiled the authoritative Hanafi legal digest **Fatawa-i-Alamgiri**. These measures, coupled with agrarian pressure, triggered revolts by the **Jats of Mathura** (Gokula, Rajaram, Churaman), **Satnamis of Narnaul (1672)**, **Bundelas** (Chhatrasal), **Sikhs**, **Rathore Rajputs of Marwar** (led by **Durgadas Rathore** after the death of Jaswant Singh in 1678), and the **Marathas** (NCERT).
Jahangir (1605–1627 CE) and Shah Jahan (1628–1658 CE)	**Eastern and Deccan Campaigns & the Jagirdari Crisis**	General **Mir Jumla** campaigned in Assam (Treaty of Ghilajharighat, 1663), though the **Ahoms** under **Lachit Borphukan** decisively defeated the Mughals at the naval **Battle of Saraighat (1671)**; **Shaista Khan** captured **Chittagong (1666)**. Spending the final 26 years of his life (1681–1707) in the Deccan, Aurangzeb annexed **Bijapur (1686)** and **Golconda (1687)** and executed **Chhatrapati Sambhaji (1689)** — bringing the Mughal Empire to its **maximum territorial extent (21 Subahs)** and featuring the **highest proportion of Hindu (especially Maratha and Rajput) Mansabdars (~33%)** in Mughal history, while exhausting the treasury and causing the acute **Be-Jagiri (shortage of *Paibaqi* Jagir land) Crisis** before his death at Ahmadnagar in **1707** (UPSC).
Muhiuddin Muhammad Aurangzeb "Alamgir" (1658–1707 CE) and Imperial Crisis	**Three Tiers of Mughal Peasantry**	Village society in the 16th–17th centuries was economically stratified rather than egalitarian (NCERT):

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Agrarian Structure (Khud-Kashta, Pahi-Kashta, Muzarian) and Mughal Monetary System	**Khud-Kashta (*Mirasi* in Maharashtra, *Gharuhala* in Rajasthan)**	** Resident peasant-proprietors who cultivated their own hereditary village land using their own bullocks and ploughs, paid revenue at customary rates, and dominated the village Panchayat.
Jahangir (1605–1627 CE) and Shah Jahan (1628–1658 CE)	**Pahi-Kashta**	Non-resident / migratory cultivators who belonged to one village but contracted to cultivate land in another village (often attracted by concessional revenue rates on newly reclaimed *Banjar* land or driven by famine).
Muhiuddin Muhammad Aurangzeb "Alamgir" (1658–1707 CE) and Imperial Crisis	**Muzarian**	Sharecroppers and tenant-cultivators who rented land or ploughs from *Khud-Kashta* peasants or *Zamindars*.
Agrarian Structure (Khud-Kashta, Pahi-Kashta, Muzarian) and Mughal Monetary System	**Zamindari Rights (*Milkiyat*)**	***Zamindars* held private hereditary lands (**Milkiyat **cultivated through hired labour) and collected revenue on behalf of the state in exchange for a 10% share (**Nankar / Malikana **in Northern India,** Banthon** in Gujarat) (NCERT).
Jahangir (1605–1627 CE) and Shah Jahan (1628–1658 CE)	**Categorization of Mughal Nobility**	High Mansabdars were designated according to rank: those holding **10 to 400 Zat** were called **Mansabdars**, those holding **500 to 2,500 Zat** were styled **Amirs**, and those holding **3,000 Zat and above** were honoured as **Amir-i-Umda (Umda-i-Azam)**, drawn from four ethnic groups — **Turanis** (Central Asian Turks), **Iranis** (Persians), **Afghans**, and **Hindustanis** (Rajputs, Marathas, and Shaikhzadas) (NCERT).
Muhiuddin Muhammad Aurangzeb "Alamgir" (1658–1707 CE) and Imperial Crisis	**Watan Jagir vs. Tankhwah Jagir**	While normal **Tankhwah Jagirs** (salary assignments) were transferable every 3 to 4 years across the empire, Rajput and autonomous rajas inducted into the Mansabdari system retained their ancestral homelands as **Watan Jagirs**, which were **hereditary and non-transferable** (though the Emperor claimed the right to arbitrate disputed successions via *Tika*) (NCERT).
Agrarian Structure (Khud-Kashta, Pahi-Kashta, Muzarian) and Mughal Monetary System	**Regional Schools of Pahari and Rajasthani Miniature Painting**	As imperial patronage declined under Aurangzeb, court artists migrated to regional courts, catalyzing the **Rajasthani Schools** (**Mewar** [Sahibdin], **Marwar**, **Bundi-Kota** [hunting scenes], **Kishangarh** [Nihal Chand's iconic **Bani Thani** under Savant Singh *Nagari Das*], and **Amber-Jaipur**) and **Pahari Schools** (**Basohli**, **Guler**, and **Kangra** [Nainsukh and Manaku]) (National Museum).

Chapter 7 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Received two English East India Company envoys at court): Captain William Hawkins (1608–1611) (who conversed with Jahangir in Turkic and received a Mansab of 400) and **Sir Thomas Roe (1615–1619)** (official ambassador of King James I, who secured imperial *Farmans* for English factories at Surat).

Statement-II (War of Succession (1657–1659 CE)): Defeated his brothers **Shah Shuja** (Battle of Bahadurpur), **Dara Shikoh** — a liberal scholar who translated 52 Upanishads into Persian as **Sirr-i-Akbar** ("The Greatest Mystery") and authored **Majma-ul-Bahrain** ("Confluence of the Two Oceans") — at the **Battles of Dharmat (April 1658), Samugarh (May 1658), and Deorai (April 1659)**, and **Murad Bakhsh**, while imprisoning Shah Jahan in Agra Fort until 1666 (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Orthodox Policies and Agrarian Rebellions): Assumed the title **Alamgir** and lived austerely as **Zinda Pir** ("Living Saint"); discontinued the *Ilahi* calendar, *Nauroz*, *Jharokha Darshan* (balcony appearance), *Tuladan* (weighing the emperor in gold), and court musicians (though ironically the **largest number of Persian treatises on Indian classical music** were written during his reign, and he personally played the **Veena**); appointed **Muhtasibs** (censors of public morals); demolished temples at Mathura and Varanasi (1669); **re-imposed Jizya in 1679 CE**; and compiled the authoritative Hanafi legal digest **Fatawa-i-Alamgiri**. These measures, coupled with agrarian pressure, triggered revolts by the **Jats of Mathura** (Gokula, Rajaram, Churaman), **Satnamis of Narnaul (1672)**, **Bundelas** (Chhatrasal), **Sikhs**, **Rathore Rajputs of Marwar** (led by **Durgadas Rathore** after the death of Jaswant Singh in 1678), and the **Marathas** (NCERT).

Statement-II (Eastern and Deccan Campaigns & the Jagirdari Crisis): General **Mir Jumla** campaigned in Assam (Treaty of Ghilajharighat, 1663), though the **Ahoms** under **Lachit Borphukan** decisively defeated the Mughals at the naval **Battle of Saraighat (1671)**; **Shaista Khan** captured **Chittagong (1666)**. Spending the final 26 years of his life (1681–1707) in the Deccan, Aurangzeb annexed **Bijapur (1686)** and **Golconda (1687)** and executed **Chhatrapati Sambhaji (1689)** — bringing the Mughal Empire to its **maximum territorial extent (21 Subahs)** and featuring the **highest proportion of Hindu (especially Maratha and Rajput) Mansabdars (~33%)** in Mughal history, while exhausting the treasury and causing the acute **Be-Jagiri (shortage of *Paibaqi* Jagir land) Crisis** before his death at Ahmadnagar in **1707** (UPSC).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Three Tiers of Mughal Peasantry): Village society in the 16th–17th centuries was economically stratified rather than egalitarian (NCERT):

Statement-II (Khud-Kashta (*Mirasi* in Maharashtra, *Gharuhala* in Rajasthan)): ** Resident peasant-proprietors who cultivated their own hereditary village land using their own bullocks and ploughs, paid revenue at customary rates, and dominated the village Panchayat.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Pahi-Kashta): Non-resident / migratory cultivators who belonged to one village but contracted to cultivate land in another village (often attracted by concessional revenue rates on newly reclaimed *Banjar* land or driven by famine).

Statement-II (Muzarian): Sharecroppers and tenant-cultivators who rented land or ploughs from *Khud-Kashta* peasants or *Zamindars*.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Zamindari Rights (*Milkiyat*)): *Zamindars* held private hereditary lands (Milkiyat **cultivated through hired labour) and collected revenue on behalf of the state in exchange for a 10% share (**Nankar / Malikana **in Northern India,** Banthon** in Gujarat) (NCERT).

Statement-II (Categorization of Mughal Nobility): High Mansabdars were designated according to rank: those holding **10 to 400 Zat** were called **Mansabdars**, those holding **500 to 2,500 Zat** were styled **Amirs**, and those holding **3,000 Zat and above** were honoured as **Amir-i-Umda (Umda-i-Azam)**, drawn from four ethnic groups — **Turanis** (Central Asian Turks), **Iranis** (Persians), **Afghans**, and **Hindustanis** (Rajputs, Marathas, and Shaikhzadas) (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Watan Jagir vs. Tankhwah Jagir): While normal **Tankhwah Jagirs** (salary assignments) were transferable every 3 to 4 years across the empire, Rajput and autonomous rajas inducted into the Mansabdari system retained their ancestral homelands as **Watan Jagirs**, which were **hereditary and non-transferable** (though the Emperor claimed the right to arbitrate disputed successions via *Tika*) (NCERT).

Statement-II (Regional Schools of Pahari and Rajasthani Miniature Painting): As imperial patronage declined under Aurangzeb, court artists migrated to regional courts, catalyzing the **Rajasthani Schools** (**Mewar** [Sahibdin], **Marwar**, **Bundi-Kota** [hunting scenes], **Kishangarh** [Nihal Chand's iconic **Bani Thani** under Savant Singh *Nagari Das*], and **Amber-Jaipur**) and **Pahari Schools** (**Basohli**, **Guler**, and **Kangra** [Nainsukh and Manaku]) (National Museum).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *8:* Rise of the Maratha State under Shivaji Maharaj, Ashtapradhan, Peshwas & Regional Successor States

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 8: Rise of the Maratha State under Shivaji Maharaj, Ashtapradhan, Peshwas & Regional Successor States

Key Study Pillar 1
Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (1627/1630–1680 CE) — Swarajya and Ashtapradhan

Key Study Pillar 2
Sambhaji to Shahu, the Peshwa Era (1713–1761), and 18th-Century Successor States

Key Study Pillar 3
Eighteenth-Century Regional States: Autonomous Successor, Rebel, and Independent Polities

8.1 Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj *(1627/1630–1680* CE*)* — Swarajya and Ashtapradhan

• **Rise and Military Triumphs of Shivaji Maharaj:** Born at **Shivneri Fort** (Pune) to **Shahaji Bhonsle** and **Jijabai**, and mentored in administration by **Dadaji Kondadev** and spiritually inspired by **Samarth Guru Ramdas** and **Sant Tukaram**. Capturing **Torna Fort (1646)**, Chakan, Kondana, and building **Raigad**, Shivaji vanquished Bijapur general **Afzal Khan** at the foot of **Pratapgad Fort (1659)**, executed a daring night raid on Mughal viceroy **Shaista Khan** at Lal Mahal in Pune (**1663**), and sacked the rich Mughal port of **Surat (1664)** (NCERT).

• **Treaty of Purandar (June 1665) and Coronation at Raigad (June 1674):** Besieged at Purandar by Mughal commander **Mirza Raja Jai Singh I** (sent by Aurangzeb), Shivaji signed the **Treaty of Purandar (1665)**, surrendering **23 out of his 35 forts** (yielding 4 lakh *Huns* annual revenue) while retaining 12 forts (yielding 1 lakh *Huns*) and sending his young son **Sambhaji** as a *Panj-Hazari* (5,000) Mansabdar to the Mughal court. After his dramatic escape from Agra in **1666** inside sweetmeat baskets, Shivaji reconquered his forts, sacked **Surat a second time (1670)**, and celebrated his formal **Rajyabhisheka (Coronation) at Raigad Fort on 6 June 1674**, officiated by Kashi pandit **Gaga Bhatta**, assuming the titles **Chhatrapati** and *Haindava Dharmoddharak* and inaugurating the *Rajyabhisheka Shaka* before undertaking his **Dakshin Digvijaya (Karnatak Campaign, 1677–78)** capturing Jinji and Vellore (Indian Culture Portal).

• **Ashtapradhan (Council of Eight Ministers) and Fiscal Administration:**

• Shivaji's **Ashtapradhan** was directly accountable to the Chhatrapati (non-hereditary and paid in cash rather than *Jagirs*). All ministers except the *Panditrao* and *Nyayadhish* were required to command armies in the field.

• Curbed the arbitrary power of hereditary rural magnates (**Deshmukhs** and **Deshpandes**) and measured land via **Annaji Datto's** assessment (1679) using a measuring rod called **Kathi** (20 *Kathis* = 1 *Bigha*; 120 *Bighas* = 1 *Chavar*), fixing state revenue at **33% initially and later 40%** after abolishing miscellaneous cesses.

• Levied two famous fiscal exactions from neighboring Mughal/Deccan territories outside the core *Swarajya* (*Mulk-i-Qadim*): **Chauth** (**1/4th or 25%** of the land revenue assessed as protection money against Maratha raids) and **Sardeshmukhi** (an additional **1/10th or 10%** levy claimed by Shivaji as the hereditary chief *Sardeshmukh* of Maharashtra) (NCERT).

8.2 Sambhaji to Shahu, the Peshwa Era *(1713–1761),* and *18*th-Century Successor States

• **Maratha War of Independence (1680–1707):** After **Chhatrapati Sambhaji (1680–1689)** was captured at Sangameshwar and executed by Aurangzeb (while his infant son **Shahu** was taken captive), resistance continued under **Rajaram (1689–1700)** from **Jinji Fort** (who created the new ministerial post of **Pratinidhi**, making it *Navapradhan*) and subsequently under Rajaram's heroic widow **Tarabai (1700–1707)** (NCERT).

• **Rise of the Hereditary Peshwas (Bhat Family of Shrivardhan):**

1. **Balaji Vishwanath (1713–1720 CE):** Helped **Shahu** defeat Tarabai at the Battle of Khed (1707), became Peshwa in **1713**, and concluded the **Mughal-Maratha Treaty of 1719** with the **Sayyid Brothers** (verified by Emperor Farrukhsiyar/Rafi-ud-Darajat) — often called by historian Richard Temple the "*Magna Carta of the Maratha Empire*" — recognizing Shahu's rule over Shivaji's *Swarajya* and granting the Marathas the right to collect **Chauth and Sardeshmukhi across the six Mughal Subahs of the Deccan** (UPSC).

2. **Baji Rao I (1720–1740 CE):** Greatest exponent of cavalry guerrilla warfare after Shivaji; preached the ideal of **Hindu Pad Padshahi**; defeated **Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah I** at the **Battles of Palkhed (1728) and Bhopal (1737)**; conquered Malwa, Bundelkhand, and Gujarat; raided the outskirts of Delhi (1737); and laid the foundation of the **Maratha Confederacy**: **Gaekwads of Baroda**, **Holkars of Indore**, **Scindias (Shindes) of Gwalior**, **Bhonsles of Nagpur**, and the **Peshwa at Poona**.

3. **Balaji Baji Rao (Nana Saheb, 1740–1761 CE):** Under the **Sangola Agreement (1750)**, the Peshwa became the *de facto* head of the Maratha state at Poona. Maratha armies under **Raghunath Rao** overran Punjab up to **Attock (1758)**, provoking Afghan ruler **Ahmad Shah Abdali (Durrani)** (assisted by Rohilla chief **Najib-ud-Daulah** and **Shuja-ud-Daulah of Awadh**) to defeat the Maratha army commanded by **Sadashivrao Bhau** and **Vishwasrao** at the **Third Battle of Panipat on 14 January 1761** (NCERT).

8.3 Eighteenth-Century Regional States: Autonomous Successor, Rebel, and Independent Polities

• **Threefold Typology of 18th-Century Indian Polities:** Following the death of Aurangzeb (1707) and the invasions of **Nadir Shah of Persia (Battle of Karnal, February 1739 — carrying away the Peacock Throne and Koh-i-Noor diamond)** and **Ahmad Shah Abdali (1748–1767)**, the subcontinent reorganized into three categories of states (NCERT):

1. **Mughal Successor States: Hyderabad** (**Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah**, 1724), **Bengal** (**Murshid Quli Khan**, 1717; **Shuja-ud-Din**; **Alivardi Khan**, 1740–56), and **Awadh** (**Saadat Khan Burhan-ul-Mulk**, 1722; **Safdar Jung**; **Shuja-ud-Daulah**; **Asaf-ud-Daulah**, who built the **Bara Imambara** at Lucknow in 1784 without iron or European beams).

2. **Warrior / Rebel States: Marathas**, **Sikhs** (organized into **12 Misls** under the *Dal Khalsa*), **Jats of Bharatpur** (founded by **Churaman and Badan Singh**, reaching its zenith under **Maharaja Suraj Mal *[1756–1763]***, hailed as the "*Plato of the Jat Tribe / Jat Ulysses*"), and **Rohilla & Bangash Pathans** (Farrukhabad and Rohilkhand).

3. **Independent Kingdoms: Mysore** (**Haidar Ali & Tipu Sultan**), **Travancore** (**Martanda Varma & Rama Varma *[Dharma Raja]***), and **Rajput States** (**Sawai Jai Singh II of Amber/Jaipur**) (NCERT).

18th-Century State	Founder & Key Ruler(s)	Capital City	Notable Fiscal, Cultural, or Military Feature	Official Source
Bengal	**Murshid Quli Khan** & **Alivardi Khan**	Murshidabad	*Malzamini* revenue settlement; rise of **Jagat Seth** banking house; kept Bengal free from Maratha annexation (peace of 1751)	NCERT
Awadh	**Saadat Khan Burhan-ul-Mulk** & **Asaf-ud-Daulah**	Faizabad -> **Lucknow (1775)**	Flourishing of *Ganga-Jamuni Tehzeeb*, **Bara Imambara**, *Rumi Darwaza*, Urdu poetry (Mir Taqi Mir, Sauda), & *Kathak*	ASI
Bharatpur (Jat State)	**Churaman, Badan Singh** & **Maharaja Suraj Mal**	Deeg & Bharatpur (**Lohagarh Fort**)	Built impregnable mud-walled **Lohagarh Fort** and water palaces of **Deeg**	ASI
Jaipur (Amber)	**Sawai Jai Singh II (1688–1743)**	**Jaipur (founded 1727)**	Grid-planned city, **5 Jantar Mantar** observatories, translated Euclid's *Elements* into Sanskrit, promoted widow remarriage	IUC Academy

• **Administrative Sub-Units of Shivaji's Swarajya:** Organized into three main **Prants (Provinces)** — Northern (Poona to Salher under Moro Trimbak Pingle), Southern/Konkan (under Annaji Datto), and South-Eastern (Satara-Kolhapur under Dattaji Pant) — subdivided into **Tarafs** (headed by a *Havaldar*) and **Mauzas** (villages under hereditary *Patils* and *Kulkarnis*) (NCERT).

• **Strict Fort Administration (*Kille*) under Shivaji Maharaj:** Every hill fort (*Gad*) and sea fort (*Janjira*/*Durg*) was placed under **three officers of equal rank** from different castes to prevent treachery: (1) **Havaldar** (Maratha — in charge of the fort keys and garrison security), (2) **Sabnis** (Brahmana — in charge of muster rolls and civil accounts), and (3) **Karkhanis** (Prabhu / Kayastha — in charge of commissariat grain and military stores) (UPSC).

• **Ahilyabai Holkar of Indore (1767–1795 CE) & Mahadji Scindia (1768–1794 CE): Devi Ahilyabai Holkar** ruled Malwa from **Maheshwar** with legendary justice and rebuilt the **Kashi Vishwanath Temple (1780)** and Somnath shrines; **Mahadji Scindia** modernized the Maratha army with French general **Benoît de Boigne**, escorted Mughal Emperor **Shah Alam II** back to the Delhi throne in **1772**, and served as *Wakil-i-Mutlaq* (Regent of the Empire) (Indian Culture Portal).

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Shivaji Maharaj's Swarajya Consolidation (Torna 1646, Pratapgad 1659, Purandar 1665 & Raigad Coronation 1674)

STEP 2
Ashtapradhan Centralization, Kathi Land Survey (40% Share) & Chauth (25%) + Sardeshmukhi (10%) Fiscal System

STEP 3
Maratha War of Independence (Sambhaji, Rajaram, Tarabai) & Balaji Vishwanath's 1719 Magna Carta Treaty

STEP 4
Baji Rao I's Northern Expansion, 5-Power Maratha Confederacy & Third Battle of Panipat (14 January 1761)

Ashtapradhan Minister	Sanskrit / Marathi Title	Core Departmental Portfolio under Chhatrapati Shivaji	Military / Judicial Exception	Official Reference
Prime Minister	**Peshwa (Mukhya Pradhan)**	General administration, royal seal below the king, economy, and state policy	Commanded armies in field	NCERT
Finance Minister	**Amatya (Mazumdar)**	Audited public income and expenditure of the realm	Commanded armies in field	Indian Culture Portal
Chronicler & Home Minister	**Waqia-Navis (Mantri)**	Recorded court proceedings, royal household safety, and intelligence	Commanded armies in field	NCERT
Foreign Secretary & Master of Ceremonies	**Sumant (Dabir)**	Foreign affairs, diplomatic treaties, and reception of envoys	Commanded armies in field	UPSC
Superintendent of Correspondence	**Sachiv (Shuru-Navis)**	Drafted royal letters and checked accounts of *Parganas*	Commanded armies in field	NCERT
Commander-in-Chief	**Sar-i-Naubat (Senapati)**	Recruitment, organization, discipline, and supplies of Cavalry (*Bargirs* & *Silahdars*) and Infantry (*Mavalis*)	Chief military head	Indian Culture Portal

Ashtapradhan Minister	Sanskrit / Marathi Title	Core Departmental Portfolio under Chhatrapati Shivaji	Military / Judicial Exception	Official Reference
Ecclesiastical Head & Chief Justice	**Panditrao** & **Nyayadhish**	Religious charities/scholarships (*Panditrao*) & Civil/Criminal justice (*Nyayadhish*)	**Only two ministers exempt from military command**	UPSC

Did You Know?: Shivaji Maharaj organized his regular cavalry (*Paga*) into two distinct tiers: **Bargirs** (state-equipped cavalrymen whose horses and weapons were supplied directly by the state treasury) and **Silahdars** (troopers who brought their own horses and arms for a stipulated higher pay), while also establishing a formidable **Maratha Navy** headquartered at **Kolaba, Sindhudurg, and Vijaydurg** to check the **Siddis of Janjira** and the Portuguese (NCERT).

Exam Trap Alert: Do not confuse **Chauth (1/4th = 25%)** and **Sardeshmukhi (1/10th = 10%)** as internal land taxes within Shivaji's own *Swarajya* — they were external levies collected from territories bordering or lying inside Mughal/Bijapur domains. Also note that in the **Ashtapradhan**, **Amatya (Mazumdar)** was the Finance Minister, whereas **Sachiv (Shuru-Navis)** was in charge of royal correspondence (UPSC).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the five centres of the **Maratha Confederacy** using **"P-P, B-G, I-H, G-S, N-B"** — **P**oona = **P**eshwa, **B**aroda = **G**aekwad, **I**ndore = **H**olkar, **G**walior = **S**cindia, **N**agpur = **B**honsle (IUC Academy).

Chapter *8* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (1627/1630–1680 CE) — Swarajya and Ashtapradhan	**Rise and Military Triumphs of Shivaji Maharaj**	Born at **Shivneri Fort** (Pune) to **Shahaji Bhonsle** and **Jijabai**, and mentored in administration by **Dadaji Kondadev** and spiritually inspired by **Samarth Guru Ramdas** and **Sant Tukaram**. Capturing **Torna Fort (1646)**, Chakan, Kondana, and building **Raigad**, Shivaji vanquished Bijapur general **Afzal Khan** at the foot of **Pratapgad Fort (1659)**, executed a daring night raid on Mughal viceroy **Shaista Khan** at Lal Mahal in Pune **(1663)**, and sacked the rich Mughal port of **Surat (1664)** (NCERT).
Sambhaji to Shahu, the Peshwa Era (1713–1761), and 18th-Century Successor States	**Treaty of Purandar (June 1665) and Coronation at Raigad (June 1674)**	Besieged at Purandar by Mughal commander **Mirza Raja Jai Singh I** (sent by Aurangzeb), Shivaji signed the **Treaty of Purandar (1665)**, surrendering **23 out of his 35 forts** (yielding 4 lakh *Huns* annual revenue) while retaining 12 forts (yielding 1 lakh *Huns*) and sending his young son **Sambhaji** as a *Panj-Hazari* (5,000) Mansabdar to the Mughal court. After his dramatic escape from Agra in **1666** inside sweetmeat baskets, Shivaji reconquered his forts, sacked **Surat a second time (1670)**, and celebrated his formal **Rajyabhisheka (Coronation) at Raigad Fort on 6 June 1674**, officiated by Kashi pandit **Gaga Bhatta**, assuming the titles **Chhatrapati** and *Haindava Dharmoddharak* and inaugurating the *Rajyabhisheka Shaka* before undertaking his **Dakshin Digvijaya (Karnatak Campaign, 1677–78)** capturing Jinji and Vellore (Indian Culture Portal).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Eighteenth-Century Regional States: Autonomous Successor, Rebel, and Independent Polities	**Maratha War of Independence (1680–1707)**	After **Chhatrapati Sambhaji (1680–1689)** was captured at Sangameshwar and executed by Aurangzeb (while his infant son **Shahu** was taken captive), resistance continued under **Rajaram (1689–1700)** from **Jinji Fort** (who created the new ministerial post of **Pratinidhi**, making it *Navapradhan*) and subsequently under Rajaram's heroic widow **Tarabai (1700–1707)** (NCERT).
Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (1627/1630–1680 CE) — Swarajya and Ashtapradhan	**Balaji Vishwanath (1713–1720 CE)**	Helped **Shahu** defeat Tarabai at the Battle of Khed (1707), became Peshwa in **1713**, and concluded the **Mughal-Maratha Treaty of 1719** with the **Sayyid Brothers** (verified by Emperor Farrukhsiyar/Rafi-ud-Darajat) — often called by historian Richard Temple the "*Magna Carta of the Maratha Empire*" — recognizing Shahu's rule over Shivaji's *Swarajya* and granting the Marathas the right to collect **Chauth and Sardeshmukhi across the six Mughal Subahs of the Deccan** (UPSC).
Sambhaji to Shahu, the Peshwa Era (1713–1761), and 18th-Century Successor States	**Baji Rao I (1720–1740 CE)**	Greatest exponent of cavalry guerrilla warfare after Shivaji; preached the ideal of **Hindu Pad Padshahi**; defeated **Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah I** at the **Battles of Palkhed (1728) and Bhopal (1737)**; conquered Malwa, Bundelkhand, and Gujarat; raided the outskirts of Delhi (1737); and laid the foundation of the **Maratha Confederacy**: **Gaekwads of Baroda**, **Holkars of Indore**, **Scindias (Shindes) of Gwalior**, **Bhonsles of Nagpur**, and the **Peshwa at Poona**.
Eighteenth-Century Regional States: Autonomous Successor, Rebel, and Independent Polities	**Balaji Baji Rao (Nana Saheb, 1740–1761 CE)**	Under the **Sangola Agreement (1750)**, the Peshwa became the *de facto* head of the Maratha state at Poona. Maratha armies under **Raghunath Rao** overran Punjab up to **Attock (1758)**, provoking Afghan ruler **Ahmad Shah Abdali (Durrani)** (assisted by Rohilla chief **Najib-ud-Daulah** and **Shuja-ud-Daulah of Awadh**) to defeat the Maratha army commanded by **Sadashivrao Bhau** and **Vishwasrao** at the **Third Battle of Panipat on 14 January 1761** (NCERT).
Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (1627/1630–1680 CE) — Swarajya and Ashtapradhan	**Threefold Typology of 18th-Century Indian Polities**	Following the death of Aurangzeb (1707) and the invasions of **Nadir Shah of Persia (Battle of Karnal, February 1739 — carrying away the Peacock Throne and Koh-i-Noor diamond)** and **Ahmad Shah Abdali (1748–1767)**, the subcontinent reorganized into three categories of states (NCERT):
Sambhaji to Shahu, the Peshwa Era (1713–1761), and 18th-Century Successor States	**Mughal Successor States**	**Hyderabad** (**Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah**, 1724), **Bengal** (**Murshid Quli Khan**, 1717; **Shuja-ud-Din**; **Alivardi Khan**, 1740–56), and **Awadh** (**Saadat Khan Burhan-ul-Mulk**, 1722; **Safdar Jung**; **Shuja-ud-Daulah**; **Asaf-ud-Daulah**, who built the **Bara Imambara** at Lucknow in 1784 without iron or European beams).
Eighteenth-Century Regional States: Autonomous Successor, Rebel, and Independent Polities	**Warrior / Rebel States**	**Marathas**, **Sikhs** (organized into **12 Misls** under the *Dal Khalsa*), **Jats of Bharatpur** (founded by **Churaman and Badan Singh**, reaching its zenith under **Maharaja Suraj Mal [1756–1763]**, hailed as the "*Plato of the Jat Tribe / Jat Ulysses*"), and **Rohilla & Bangash Pathans** (Farrukhabad and Rohilkhand).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (NCERT Medieval India Textbooks)
Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (1627/1630–1680 CE) — Swarajya and Ashtapradhan	**Independent Kingdoms**	**Mysore (Haidar Ali & Tipu Sultan)**, **Travancore (Martanda Varma & Rama Varma *[Dharma Raja]*)**, and **Rajput States (Sawai Jai Singh II of Amber/Jaipur)** (NCERT).
Sambhaji to Shahu, the Peshwa Era (1713–1761), and 18th-Century Successor States	**Administrative Sub-Units of Shivaji's Swarajya**	Organized into three main **Prants (Provinces)** — Northern (Poona to Salher under Moro Trimbak Pingle), Southern/Konkan (under Annaji Datto), and South-Eastern (Satara-Kolhapur under Dattaji Pant) — subdivided into **Tarafs** (headed by a *Havaldar*) and **Mauzas** (villages under hereditary *Patils* and *Kulkarnis*) (NCERT).
Eighteenth-Century Regional States: Autonomous Successor, Rebel, and Independent Polities	**Strict Fort Administration (*Kille*) under Shivaji Maharaj**	**Every hill fort (*Gad*) and sea fort (*Janjira*/*Durg*) was placed under** three officers of equal rank **from different castes to prevent treachery: (1)** Havaldar **(Maratha — in charge of the fort keys and garrison security), (2)** Sabnis **(Brahmana — in charge of muster rolls and civil accounts), and (3)** Karkhanis** (Prabhu / Kayastha — in charge of commissariat grain and military stores) (UPSC).
Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (1627/1630–1680 CE) — Swarajya and Ashtapradhan	**Ahilyabai Holkar of Indore (1767–1795 CE) & Mahadji Scindia (1768–1794 CE)**	**Devi Ahilyabai Holkar** ruled Malwa from **Maheshwar** with legendary justice and rebuilt the **Kashi Vishwanath Temple (1780)** and Somnath shrines; **Mahadji Scindia** modernized the Maratha army with French general **Benoît de Boigne**, escorted Mughal Emperor **Shah Alam II** back to the Delhi throne in **1772**, and served as *Wakil-i-Mutlaq* (Regent of the Empire) (Indian Culture Portal).

Chapter *8* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Rise and Military Triumphs of Shivaji Maharaj): Born at **Shivneri Fort** (Pune) to **Shahaji Bhonsle** and **Jijabai**, and mentored in administration by **Dadaji Kondadev** and spiritually inspired by **Samarth Guru Ramdas** and **Sant Tukaram**. Capturing **Torna Fort (1646)**, Chakan, Kondana, and building **Raigad**, Shivaji vanquished Bijapur general **Afzal Khan** at the foot of **Pratapgad Fort (1659)**, executed a daring night raid on Mughal viceroy **Shaista Khan** at Lal Mahal in Pune (**1663**), and sacked the rich Mughal port of **Surat (1664)** (NCERT).

Statement-II (Treaty of Purandar (June 1665) and Coronation at Raigad (June 1674)): Besieged at Purandar by Mughal commander **Mirza Raja Jai Singh I** (sent by Aurangzeb), Shivaji signed the **Treaty of Purandar (1665)**, surrendering **23 out of his 35 forts** (yielding 4 lakh *Huns* annual revenue) while retaining 12 forts (yielding 1 lakh *Huns*) and sending his young son **Sambhaji** as a *Panj-Hazari* (5,000) Mansabdar to the Mughal court. After his dramatic escape from Agra in **1666** inside sweetmeat baskets, Shivaji reconquered his forts, sacked **Surat a second time (1670)**, and celebrated his formal **Rajyabhisheka (Coronation) at Raigad Fort on 6 June 1674**, officiated by Kashi pandit **Gaga Bhatta**, assuming the titles **Chhatrapati** and *Haindava Dharmoddharak* and inaugurating the *Rajyabhisheka Shaka* before undertaking his **Dakshin Digvijaya (Karnatak Campaign, 1677–78)** capturing Jinji and Vellore (Indian Culture Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Maratha War of Independence (1680–1707)): After **Chhatrapati Sambhaji (1680–1689)** was captured at Sangameshwar and executed by Aurangzeb (while his infant son **Shahu** was taken captive), resistance continued under **Rajaram (1689–1700)** from **Jinji Fort** (who created the new ministerial post of **Pratinidhi**, making it *Navapradhan*) and subsequently under Rajaram's heroic widow **Tarabai (1700–1707)** (NCERT).

Statement-II (Balaji Vishwanath (1713–1720 CE)): Helped **Shahu** defeat Tarabai at the Battle of Khed (1707), became Peshwa in **1713**, and concluded the **Mughal-Maratha Treaty of 1719** with the **Sayyid Brothers** (verified by Emperor Farrukhsiyar/Rafi-ud-Darajat) — often called by historian Richard Temple the "*Magna Carta of the Maratha Empire*" — recognizing Shahu's rule over Shivaji's *Swarajya* and granting the Marathas the right to collect **Chauth and Sardeshmukhi across the six Mughal Subahs of the Deccan** (UPSC).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Baji Rao I (1720–1740 CE)): Greatest exponent of cavalry guerrilla warfare after Shivaji; preached the ideal of **Hindu Pad Padshahi**; defeated **Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah I** at the **Battles of Palkhed (1728) and Bhopal (1737)**; conquered Malwa, Bundelkhand, and Gujarat; raided the outskirts of Delhi (1737); and laid the foundation of the **Maratha Confederacy**: **Gaekwads of Baroda**, **Holkars of Indore**, **Scindias (Shindes) of Gwalior**, **Bhonsles of Nagpur**, and the **Peshwa at Poona**.

Statement-II (Balaji Baji Rao (Nana Saheb, 1740–1761 CE)): Under the **Sangola Agreement (1750)**, the Peshwa became the *de facto* head of the Maratha state at Poona. Maratha armies under **Raghunath Rao** overran Punjab up to **Attock (1758)**, provoking Afghan ruler **Ahmad Shah Abdali (Durrani)** (assisted by Rohilla chief **Najib-ud-Daulah** and **Shuja-ud-Daulah of Awadh**) to defeat the Maratha army commanded by **Sadashivrao Bhau** and **Vishwasrao** at the **Third Battle of Panipat on 14 January 1761** (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Threefold Typology of 18th-Century Indian Polities): Following the death of Aurangzeb (1707) and the invasions of **Nadir Shah of Persia (Battle of Karnal, February 1739 — carrying away the Peacock Throne and Koh-i-Noor diamond)** and **Ahmad Shah Abdali (1748–1767)**, the subcontinent reorganized into three categories of states (NCERT):

Statement-II (Mughal Successor States): Hyderabad (**Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah**, 1724), **Bengal** (**Murshid Quli Khan**, 1717; **Shuja-ud-Din**; **Alivardi Khan**, 1740–56), and **Awadh** (**Saadat Khan Burhan-ul-Mulk**, 1722; **Safdar Jung**; **Shuja-ud-Daulah**; **Asaf-ud-Daulah**, who built the **Bara Imambara** at Lucknow in 1784 without iron or European beams).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Warrior / Rebel States): Marathas, **Sikhs** (organized into **12 Misls** under the *Dal Khalsa*), **Jats of Bharatpur** (founded by **Churaman and Badan Singh**, reaching its zenith under **Maharaja Suraj Mal [1756–1763]**, hailed as the "*Plato of the Jat Tribe / Jat Ulysses*"), and **Rohilla & Bangash Pathans** (Farrukhabad and Rohilkhand).

Statement-II (Independent Kingdoms): Mysore (**Haidar Ali & Tipu Sultan**), **Travancore** (**Martanda Varma & Rama Varma [*Dharma Raja*]**), and **Rajput States** (**Sawai Jai Singh II of Amber/Jaipur**) (NCERT).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Administrative Sub-Units of Shivaji's Swarajya): Organized into three main **Prants (Provinces)** — Northern (Poona to Salher under Moro Trimbak Pingle), Southern/Konkan (under Annaji Datto), and South-Eastern (Satara-Kolhapur under Dattaji Pant) — subdivided into **Tarafs** (headed by a *Havaldar*) and **Mauzas** (villages under hereditary *Patils* and *Kulkarnis*) (NCERT).

Statement-II (Strict Fort Administration (*Kille*) under Shivaji Maharaj): Every hill fort (*Gad*) and sea fort (*Janjira*/*Durg*) was placed under three officers of equal rank **from different castes to prevent treachery: (1)** Havaldar **(Maratha — in charge of the fort keys and garrison security), (2)** Sabnis **(Brahmana — in charge of muster rolls and civil accounts), and (3)** Karkhanis** (Prabhu / Kayastha — in charge of commissariat grain and military stores) (UPSC).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy.**

Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)

Practice Question #1 — Solved Exam MCQ

Q1. Which early medieval dynasty was founded in 750 CE when regional notables (*Prakritis*) elected **Gopala** as king to end a prolonged period of anarchy termed *Matsyanyaya*? (A) Gurjara-Pratihara Dynasty (B) Pala Dynasty of Bengal (C) Rashtrakuta Dynasty (D) Sena Dynasty **Answer: (B) | Explanation:** As recorded in the Khalimpur Copper Plate of Dharmapala, Gopala was elected by the people/notables of Bengal c. 750 CE to end *Matsyanyaya* (lawlessness), founding the Pala dynasty (NCERT).

Practice Question #2 — Solved Exam MCQ

Q2. Which Rashtrakuta monarch excavated the monolithic rock-cut **Kailasa Temple (Cave 16) at Ellora**? (A) Dantidurga (B) Krishna I (C) Amoghavarsha I (D) Govinda III **Answer: (B) | Explanation:** Rashtrakuta king Krishna I (756–774 CE) commissioned the magnificent monolithic Kailasa Temple at Ellora, carved vertically from the top down out of a basalt cliff (ASI).

Practice Question #3 — Solved Exam MCQ

Q3. Who authored **Kavirajamarga** (the earliest extant work on rhetoric and poetics in the Kannada language) and built the Rashtrakuta capital at **Manyakheta**? (A) Dhruva Dharavarsha (B) Amoghavarsha I (C) Indra III (D) Krishna III **Answer: (B) | Explanation:** Amoghavarsha I (*Nripatunga*, 814–878 CE), a patron of Jainism and literature, authored/co-authored *Kavirajamarga* in Kannada and *Prashnottara Ratnamalika* in Sanskrit (Indian Culture Portal).

Practice Question #4 — Solved Exam MCQ

Q4. Which Arab traveler visited India in the 9th century CE, praised the cavalry of Gurjara-Pratihara ruler **Mihira Bhoja**, and referred to the Pala kingdom as *Ruhma*? (A) Al-Masudi (B) Sulaiman (C) Ibn Hauqal (D) Ibn Battuta **Answer: (B) | Explanation:** The 9th-century Arab merchant Sulaiman wrote an account in 851 CE describing Mihira Bhoja (Juzr/Pratihara), the Pala kingdom (*Ruhma*), and Rashtrakuta ruler Amoghavarsha (*Balhara*) (NCERT).

Practice Question #5 — Solved Exam MCQ

Q5. Which scholar accompanied Mahmud of Ghazni's Era to Punjab, studied Sanskrit texts, and authored the 80-chapter Arabic treatise **Kitab-ul-Hind (Tahqiq-i-Hind)**? (A) Firdausi (B) Al-Biruni (C) Utbi (D) Minhaj-i-Siraj **Answer: (B) | Explanation:** Abu Rayhan Al-Biruni (born in Khwarizm in 973 CE) learned Sanskrit in Punjab and authored *Kitab-ul-Hind*, where each chapter systematically opens with a question, presents Indian Sanskrit views, and compares them with Greek thought (NCERT).

Practice Question #6 Solved Exam MCQ

Q6. In which battle of 1178 CE was **Muhammad Ghori** defeated near Mount Abu by the Solanki (Chaulukya) army of Gujarat led by Queen Regent **Naikidevi** during the minority of Mularaja II / Bhima II? (A) First Battle of Tarain (B) Battle of Kayadra (Kasahrada) (C) Battle of Chandawar (D) Battle of Aror **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** When Muhammad Ghori marched across the Thar desert toward Anhilwara (Patan) in 1178 CE, Queen Mother Naikidevi routed his army at Kayadra near the foot of Mount Abu (UPSC).

Practice Question #7 Solved Exam MCQ

Q7. Which Delhi Sultan shifted the imperial capital from Lahore to Delhi, saved the Sultanate from **Chengiz Khan** by refusing asylum to Jalaluddin Mangabarni, and introduced the **Silver Tanka** and **Copper Jital**? (A) Qutbuddin Aibak (B) Shamsuddin Iltutmish (C) Ghiyasuddin Balban (D) Alauddin Khalji **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Iltutmish (1210–1236 CE) is recognized as the real consolidator of the Delhi Sultanate for establishing Delhi as capital, institutionalizing the *Iqta* and *Chahalgani*, and minting the standard Arabic *Tanka* (175 grains) and *Jital* (NCERT).

Practice Question #8 Solved Exam MCQ

Q8. Which Sultan of Delhi liquidated the *Turkan-i-Chahalgani*, introduced the Persian court rituals of **Sijda** and **Paibos**, and created the military department **Diwan-i-Arz**? (A) Iltutmish (B) Raziya Sultan (C) Ghiyasuddin Balban (D) Jalaluddin Khalji **Answer: (C)** | **Explanation:** Ghiyasuddin Balban (1266–1287 CE) broke the power of the Forty nobles (*Chahalgani*), elevated royal prestige through *Zill-i-Ilahi*, *Sijda*, *Paibos*, and *Nauroz*, and separated the military department (*Diwan-i-Arz*) from the finance department (NCERT).

Practice Question #9 Solved Exam MCQ

Q9. Under **Alauddin Khalji's** market control system, what was the specific function of the **Sarai-i-Adl** in Delhi? (A) Central grain storage and wholesale wheat market (B) Subsidized state market for manufactured cloth, sugar, herbs, dry fruits, and lamp oil (C) Inspection yard for branding cavalry horses (*Dagh*) (D) Tribunal for recovering revenue arrears from collectors **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Established near the Badayun Gate in Delhi under the *Diwan-i-Riyasat*, the *Sarai-i-Adl* was the regulated market for cloth (including fine Multani textiles subsidized by advances to Multani merchants), sugar, butter, and dry fruits (NCERT).

Practice Question #10 Solved Exam MCQ

Q10. Which department was newly created by **Alauddin Khalji** specifically to inquire into and realize unpaid revenue arrears from tax collectors (*Amils* and *Karkuns*)? (A) Diwan-i-Mustakhraj (B) Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi (C) Diwan-i-Khairat (D) Diwan-i-Bandagan **Answer: (A)** | **Explanation:** Alauddin Khalji established the *Diwan-i-Mustakhraj* to audit revenue collectors and recover outstanding balances strictly; *Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi* was created by Muhammad bin Tughlaq, and *Diwan-i-Khairat*/ *Bandagan* by Firoz Shah Tughlaq (UPSC).

Practice Question #11 Solved Exam MCQ

Q11. Which Sultan of Delhi established the agricultural department **Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi** and advanced **Sondhar (Takkavi)** loans to peasants to promote superior crop rotation? (A) Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq (B) Muhammad bin Tughlaq (C) Firoz Shah Tughlaq (D) Sikandar Lodi **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Following the severe famine in the Ganga-Yamuna Doab, Muhammad bin Tughlaq set up the *Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi* to bring uncultivated land under the plough and upgrade cropping patterns through *Sondhar* loans (NCERT).

Practice Question #12 Solved Exam MCQ

Q12. What was **Haqq-i-Sharb**, levied during the reign of **Firoz Shah Tughlaq**? (A) A 20% war booty tax on military campaigns (B) An irrigation tax fixed at 10% (1/10th) of the agricultural produce on lands watered by state-built canals (C) A house tax on urban residents of Firozabad (D) A religious import duty on horses **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** After constructing five major irrigation canals in Haryana and Punjab, Firoz Shah Tughlaq, with the approval of the *Ulama*, levied *Haqq-i-Sharb* (water right tax) at 1/10th of the produce from farmers using royal canal water (NCERT).

Practice Question #13 Solved Exam MCQ

Q13. Which Lodi ruler founded the city of **Agra in 1504 CE**, introduced the **32-digit *Gaz-i-Sikandari*** for land measurement, and composed Persian verses under the pen-name **Gulrukhi**? (A) Bahlul Lodi (B) Sikandar Lodi (C) Ibrahim Lodi (D) Daulat Khan Lodi **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Sikandar Lodi (1489–1517 CE) founded Agra in 1504 to control the eastern Rajputana and Gwalior routes, standardized the *Gaz-i-Sikandari* (which continued until Akbar's *Ilahi Gaz*), and wrote poetry as *Gulrukhi* (NCERT).

Practice Question #14 Solved Exam MCQ

Q14. Who among the following foreign travellers visited the Vijayanagara Empire in **1443 CE** as an envoy of King Shah Rukh of Persia during the reign of **Deva Raya II**? (A) Niccolo de' Conti (B) Abdur Razzaq (C) Domingo Paes (D) Duarte Barbosa **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Persian diplomat Abdur Razzaq of Samarqand visited Vijayanagara in 1443 during the reign of Deva Raya II (Sangama dynasty) and famously wrote in his *Matla-us-Sadain* that the eye had never seen nor the ear heard of any city equal to Vijayanagara (NCERT).

Practice Question #15 Solved Exam MCQ

Q15. The celebrated Telugu work on polity and Vaishnava devotion, **Amuktamalyada** ("The Giver of the Worn Garland", about the life of Alvar saint Andal), was authored by which ruler? (A) Deva Raya II (B) Krishnadevaraya (C) Achyuta Deva Raya (D) Aliya Rama Raya **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Tuluva emperor Krishnadevaraya (1509–1529 CE) authored *Amuktamalyada* in Telugu (stating therein that a king should improve his ports and welcome foreign merchants) as well as *Jambavati Kalyanam* in Sanskrit (Indian Culture Portal).

Practice Question #16 Solved Exam MCQ

Q16. Which one of the five Deccan Sultanates did **NOT** join the grand alliance that defeated the Vijayanagara army at the **Battle of Talikota (Rakshasi-Tangadi)** in January 1565? (A) Bijapur (B) Ahmadnagar (C) Golconda (D) Berar **Answer: (D)** | **Explanation:** The coalition at Talikota (1565) comprised four Sultanates — Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, Golconda, and Bidar — while **Berar** (ruled by the Imad Shahi dynasty) stayed out due to hostility with Ahmadnagar (UPSC).

Practice Question #17 Solved Exam MCQ

Q17. Who served as the reformist Prime Minister (*Malik-ut-Tujjar* and *Khwaja-i-Jahan*) of the **Bahmani Sultanate** (1463–1481 CE), conquered Goa from Vijayanagara, reorganized the kingdom into **8 Tarafs**, and built the famous **Madrasa at Bidar**? (A) Firuz Shah Bahmani (B) Mahmud Gawan (C) Yusuf Adil Shah (D) Malik Ambar **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Iranian merchant-scholar Mahmud Gawan served Muhammad Shah III, curtailed the power of provincial *Tarafdars* by dividing 4 provinces into 8 *Tarafs*, expanded *Khalisa* lands, and endowed the three-storeyed college (*Madrasa*) at Bidar (ASI).

Practice Question #18 Solved Exam MCQ

Q18. In the 12th century CE, who led the egalitarian **Virashaiva (Lingayat)** movement in Karnataka, established the **Anubhava Mantapa**, and composed devotional **Vachanas** in Kannada? (A) Ramanujacharya (B) Basavanna (C) Madhvacharya (D) Purandaradasa **Answer: (B) | Explanation:** Basavanna (initially a minister at the court of Kalachuri king Bijjala at Kalyana), alongside Allama Prabhu and Akka Mahadevi, spearheaded the Virashaiva movement rejecting caste pollution, Vedic sacrifices, cremation, and restriction on widow remarriage (NCERT).

Practice Question #19 Solved Exam MCQ

Q19. Which saint founded the **Ekasarana Dharma** (Neo-Vaishnavite movement) in **Assam**, established monastic **Satras** and prayer halls (**Namghars**), and composed devotional **Borgeets**? (A) Chaitanya Mahaprabhu (B) Srimanta Sankardeva (C) Chandidas (D) Vidyapati **Answer: (B) | Explanation:** Srimanta Sankardeva (1449–1568 CE) propagated monotheistic devotion (*Ekasarana*) to Krishna in Assam based on the *Bhagavata Purana* (*Kirtana-ghosha*), creating the *Sattriya* classical dance/drama tradition (Indian Culture Portal).

Practice Question #20 Solved Exam MCQ

Q20. Which Sufi *Silsilah* in India was strictly orthodox, opposed musical audition (**Sama**), and saw its leading master **Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi** (*Mujaddid-i-Alf-i-Sani*) propound **Wahdat-ush-Shuhud**? (A) Chishti Silsilah (B) Suhrawardi Silsilah (C) Qadiri Silsilah (D) Naqshbandi Silsilah **Answer: (D) | Explanation:** Introduced under Khwaja Baqi Billah and expanded by Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi, the Naqshbandi order opposed *Sama* and syncretic practices, countering Ibn al-Arabi's *Wahdat-ul-Wujud* with *Wahdat-ush-Shuhud* (UPSC).

Practice Question #21 Solved Exam MCQ

Q21. Which Sikh Guru compiled the **Adi Granth** in **1604 CE**, incorporating the hymns of the earlier Gurus along with the verses of **Baba Farid, Kabir, Namdev, and Ravidas**? (A) Guru Angad Dev (B) Guru Ram Das (C) Guru Arjan Dev (D) Guru Gobind Singh **Answer: (C) | Explanation:** The fifth Sikh Guru, Guru Arjan Dev Ji, completed the construction of the Harmandir Sahib at Amritsar and compiled the *Adi Granth* in 1604 CE (scribed by Bhai Gurdas) before his martyrdom in 1606 under Jahangir (NCERT).

Practice Question #22 Solved Exam MCQ

Q22. In which battle of **March 1527** did **Babur** defeat the Rajput confederacy led by **Rana Sanga of Mewar**, abolish the *Tamgha* tax for Muslims to rally his troops, and assume the title **Ghazi**? (A) First Battle of Panipat (B) Battle of Khanwa (C) Battle of Chanderi (D) Battle of Ghaghra **Answer: (B) | Explanation:** Fought on 17 March 1527 near Fatehpur Sikri (Bharatpur), the Battle of Khanwa against Rana Sanga consolidated Babur's stay in Hindustan, after which Babur assumed the title *Ghazi* (NCERT).

Practice Question #23 Solved Exam MCQ

Q23. Which of the following pairs of **Sher Shah Suri's** administrative reforms is correctly matched? (A) *Patta* and *Qabuliyat* — Military branding and descriptive rolls (B) Silver *Rupiya* (178 grains) and Copper *Dam* — Standard bi-metallic currency system (C) *Ain-i-Dahsala* — Ten-year average revenue settlement (D) *Sarkar* — Smallest village fiscal unit **Answer: (B) | Explanation:** Sher Shah Suri introduced the pure silver *Rupiya* (178 grains) and copper *Dam* (380 grains), alongside *Patta* (title deed stating assessed demand) and *Qabuliyat* (peasant's deed of acceptance) (NCERT).

Practice Question #24 Solved Exam MCQ

Q24. Under **Akbar's Dahsala (Zabti)** system formulated by **Raja Todar Mal (1580 CE)**, what did the land category **Chachar** signify? (A) Land cultivated continuously every year without lying fallow (B) Land left fallow for 1 to 2 years to recover strength (C) Land that had lain fallow for 3 to 4 years (D) Land uncultivated for 5 or more years **Answer: (C)** | **Explanation:** In Todar Mal's classification, *Polaj* is annually cultivated, *Parauti* is fallow for 1–2 years, *Chachar* is fallow for 3–4 years, and *Banjar* is uncultivated for 5+ years (NCERT).

Practice Question #25 Solved Exam MCQ

Q25. Under what Persian title was the Sanskrit epic **Mahabharata** translated at Akbar's **Maktab Khana** (Translation Bureau) by Naqib Khan, Abdul Qadir Badauni, and Shaikh Sultan? (A) Anwar-i-Suhaili (B) Razmnama (C) Ayar-i-Danish (D) Sirr-i-Akbar **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Commissioned by Akbar in 1582 at Fatehpur Sikri, the *Mahabharata* was translated into Persian as the **Razmnama** ("Book of Wars") and illustrated by master artists Daswanth and Basawan (National Museum).

Practice Question #26 Solved Exam MCQ

Q26. With reference to the Mughal **Mansabdari System**, consider the following statements: (1) *Zat* fixed the personal status and salary scale of the Mansabdar, while *Sawar* indicated the required cavalry contingent; (2) Mansabdari ranks were strictly hereditary from father to eldest son. Which is correct? (A) 1 only (B) 2 only (C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2 **Answer: (A)** | **Explanation:** Statement 1 is correct; Statement 2 is incorrect because the Mansabdari system was **not hereditary** — all appointments, promotions, and dismissals rested directly with the Emperor, and properties were subject to *Escheat* upon death (UPSC).

Practice Question #27 Solved Exam MCQ

Q27. Which Mughal Emperor introduced the **Du-Aspa Sih-Aspa** system into the Mansabdari framework to increase a noble's cavalry quota without altering his *Zat* rank? (A) Akbar (B) Jahangir (C) Shah Jahan (D) Aurangzeb **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Jahangir introduced *Du-Aspa Sih-Aspa* ("troopers with two or three horses"), allowing selected Mansabdars to maintain double the cavalry troopers for the same *Zat* rank (NCERT).

Practice Question #28 Solved Exam MCQ

Q28. Which pair of Mughal miniature painters flourished under **Emperor Jahangir**, earning the royal titles **Nadir-ul-Asr** (for natural history / bird studies) and **Nadir-uz-Zaman** (for portraiture) respectively? (A) Mir Sayyid Ali and Abdus Samad (B) Daswanth and Basawan (C) Ustad Mansur and Abul Hasan (D) Bihzad and Kesu Das **Answer: (C)** | **Explanation:** Jahangir conferred *Nadir-ul-Asr* ("Wonder of the Age") on **Ustad Mansur** (famous for the Siberian Crane and Turkey Cock paintings) and *Nadir-uz-Zaman* ("Wonder of the Time") on **Abul Hasan** (National Museum).

Practice Question #29 Solved Exam MCQ

Q29. Which Mughal monument in Agra is the **first Mughal structure built completely of white marble** and the first to make extensive use of **Pietra Dura (*Parchin Kari*)** semi-precious stone inlay? (A) Akbar's Tomb at Sikandra (B) Tomb of Itimad-ud-Daulah (C) Taj Mahal (D) Moti Masjid **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Commissioned by Empress Nur Jahan between 1622 and 1628 for her father Mirza Ghiyas Beg (*Itimad-ud-Daulah*), this tomb marks the transition from Akbar's red sandstone to Shah Jahan's white marble with *Pietra Dura* inlay (ASI).

Practice Question #30 Solved Exam MCQ

Q30. Who authored **Sirr-i-Akbar** (Persian translation of 52 Upanishads) and **Majma-ul-Bahrain** ("The Confluence of the Two Oceans"), comparing Vedantic and Sufi mysticism? (A) Abul Fazl (B) Faizi (C) Prince Dara Shikoh (D) Mirza Mazhar Jan-i-Janan **Answer: (C)** | **Explanation:** Eldest son of Shah Jahan and disciple of Qadiri Sufi Mulla Shah Badakhshi, Prince Dara Shikoh authored *Majma-ul-Bahrain* and translated 52 Upanishads with the help of Varanasi pandits as *Sirr-i-Akbar* (1657) (Indian Culture Portal).

Practice Question #31 Solved Exam MCQ

Q31. In **1671 CE**, the **Ahom Kingdom of Assam** inflicted a decisive naval defeat on the Mughal forces (led by Raja Ram Singh I of Amber) at which battle on the Brahmaputra River? (A) Battle of Itakhuli (B) Battle of Saraighat (C) Battle of Samugarh (D) Battle of Tukaroi **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Commanded by Ahom *Borphukan* **Lachit Borphukan** under King Chakradhwaj Singha, the Ahom navy defeated the Mughal river fleet at the **Battle of Saraighat (1671)** near Guwahati (NCERT).

Practice Question #32 Solved Exam MCQ

Q32. Under the **Treaty of Purandar (June 1665)** concluded between **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** and Mughal commander **Mirza Raja Jai Singh I**, how many forts did Shivaji surrender to the Mughals? (A) 12 out of 35 forts (B) 23 out of 35 forts (C) All 35 forts (D) 18 out of 40 forts **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Under the Treaty of Purandar (11 June 1665), Shivaji ceded 23 forts (yielding 4 lakh *Huns* annual revenue) to the Mughals and retained 12 forts (yielding 1 lakh *Huns*), while agreeing to assist the Mughals against Bijapur (NCERT).

Practice Question #33 Solved Exam MCQ

Q33. In Chhatrapati Shivaji's **Ashtapradhan**, which two ministers were explicitly **exempt** from leading military campaigns in the field? (A) Peshwa and Amatya (B) Sumant and Sachiv (C) Panditrao and Nyayadhish (D) Mantri and Amatya **Answer: (C)** | **Explanation:** Six of the eight ministers in Shivaji's *Ashtapradhan* performed military duties alongside civil work; only the **Panditrao** (Ecclesiastical Charities) and **Nyayadhish** (Chief Justice) were exempt from military command (UPSC).

Practice Question #34 Solved Exam MCQ

Q34. Which Peshwa concluded the landmark **Mughal-Maratha Treaty of 1719** with the **Sayyid Brothers**, securing royal recognition for **Chhatrapati Shahu** and the right to collect *Chauth* and *Sardeshmukhi* in the six Deccan Subahs? (A) Balaji Vishwanath (B) Baji Rao I (C) Balaji Baji Rao (Nana Saheb) (D) Madhav Rao I **Answer: (A)** | **Explanation:** The first hereditary Peshwa **Balaji Vishwanath (1713–1720)** marched to Delhi and negotiated the 1719 Treaty with Sayyid Hussain Ali Khan (ratified under Rafi-ud-Darajat) (NCERT).

Practice Question #35 Solved Exam MCQ

Q35. On **14 January 1761**, the **Third Battle of Panipat** was fought between the Maratha army (led by **Sadashivrao Bhau** and **Vishwasrao**) and which invading monarch? (A) Nadir Shah of Persia (B) Ahmad Shah Abdali (Durrani) of Afghanistan (C) Zaman Shah (D) Shah Alam II **Answer: (B)** | **Explanation:** Afghan ruler Ahmad Shah Abdali, allied with Rohilla chief Najib-ud-Daulah and Nawab Shuja-ud-Daulah of Awadh, defeated the Maratha forces at the Third Battle of Panipat on 14 January 1761 (NCERT).

Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions *36* to *75*)

Practice Question #36 — High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q36. With reference to Temple Complex and Dynasty & Patron Ruler, which of the following is accurately matched with "Konark Sun Temple"?

(A) Eastern Ganga — Narasimhadeva I
(B) Chandella — Vidyadhara
(C) Solanki — Bhima I & Queen Udayamati
(D) Imperial Chola — Rajendra I & Rajaraja II

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Konark Sun Temple** (Temple Complex), the verified Dynasty & Patron Ruler is **Eastern Ganga — Narasimhadeva I**. Furthermore, 13th Century (Puri District, Odisha). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #37 — High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q37. With reference to Temple Complex and Dynasty & Patron Ruler, which of the following is accurately matched with "Kandariya Mahadeva"?

(A) Solanki — Bhima I & Queen Udayamati
(B) Chandella — Vidyadhara
(C) Imperial Chola — Rajendra I & Rajaraja II
(D) Avanti & Kannauj

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Kandariya Mahadeva** (Temple Complex), the verified Dynasty & Patron Ruler is **Chandella — Vidyadhara**. Furthermore, 11th Century (Khajuraho, MP). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #38 — High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q38. With reference to Temple Complex and Dynasty & Patron Ruler, which of the following is accurately matched with "Modhera Sun Temple & Rani-ki-Vav"?

(A) Imperial Chola — Rajendra I & Rajaraja II
(B) Avanti & Kannauj
(C) Solanki — Bhima I & Queen Udayamati
(D) Bengal & Bihar (Munger)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Modhera Sun Temple & Rani-ki-Vav** (Temple Complex), the verified Dynasty & Patron Ruler is **Solanki — Bhima I & Queen Udayamati**. Furthermore, 11th Century (Mehsana & Patan, Gujarat). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #39 — High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q39. With reference to Temple Complex and Dynasty & Patron Ruler, which of the following is accurately matched with "Chola Gangai-konda-cholapuram & Darasuram"?

(A) Avanti & Kannauj
(B) Bengal & Bihar (Munger)
(C) Deccan (Manyakheta / Malkhed)
(D) Imperial Chola — Rajendra I & Rajaraja II

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Chola Gangai-konda-cholapuram & Darasuram** (Temple Complex), the verified Dynasty & Patron Ruler is **Imperial Chola — Rajendra I & Rajaraja II**. Furthermore, 11th–12th Century (Tamil Nadu). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #40 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q40. With reference to Dynasty / Invader and Core Territory & Capital, which of the following is accurately matched with "Gurjara-Pratihara"?

(A) Avanti & Kannauj
(B) Bengal & Bihar (Munger)
(C) Deccan (Manyakheta / Malkhed)
(D) Kashmir Valley (Parihasapura / Srinagar)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Gurjara-Pratihara** (Dynasty / Invader), the verified Core Territory & Capital is **Avanti & Kannauj**. Furthermore, Nagabhata I, Mihira Bhoja, Mahendrapala I. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #41 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q41. With reference to Dynasty / Invader and Core Territory & Capital, which of the following is accurately matched with "Pala Dynasty"?

(A) Deccan (Manyakheta / Malkhed)
(B) Bengal & Bihar (Munger)
(C) Kashmir Valley (Parihasapura / Srinagar)
(D) North-West & Gangetic Doab

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Pala Dynasty** (Dynasty / Invader), the verified Core Territory & Capital is **Bengal & Bihar (Munger)**. Furthermore, Gopala, Dharmapala, Devapala, Mahipala I. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #42 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q42. With reference to Dynasty / Invader and Core Territory & Capital, which of the following is accurately matched with "Rashtrakuta Dynasty"?

(A) Kashmir Valley (Parihasapura / Srinagar)
(B) North-West & Gangetic Doab
(C) Deccan (Manyakheta / Malkhed)
(D) Horizontal stone beam brackets (*Kadalika-karana*) vs. wedge-shaped Voussoirs locked by a central Keystone

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Rashtrakuta Dynasty** (Dynasty / Invader), the verified Core Territory & Capital is **Deccan (Manyakheta / Malkhed)**. Furthermore, Dantidurga, Krishna I, Amoghavarsha I, Krishna III. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #43 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q43. With reference to Dynasty / Invader and Core Territory & Capital, which of the following is accurately matched with "Kashmir Kingdoms (Karkota, Utpala, Lohara)"?

(A) North-West & Gangetic Doab
(B) Horizontal stone beam brackets (*Kadalika-karana*) vs. wedge-shaped Voussoirs locked by a central Keystone
(C) Geometric vegetal scroll-work & Quranic stone inscriptions
(D) Kashmir Valley (Parihasapura / Srinagar)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Kashmir Kingdoms (Karkota, Utpala, Lohara)** (Dynasty / Invader), the verified Core Territory & Capital is **Kashmir Valley (Parihasapura / Srinagar)**. Furthermore, Lalitaditya Muktapida, Avantivarman, Queen Didda. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #44 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q44. With reference to Dynasty / Invader and Core Territory & Capital, which of the following is accurately matched with "Shahi & Ghurid Campaigns"?

(A) North-West & Gangetic Doab

(B) Horizontal stone beam brackets (*Kadalika-karana*) vs. wedge-shaped Voussoirs locked by a central Keystone

(C) Geometric vegetal scroll-work & Quranic stone inscriptions

(D) Thick inward-sloping rubble masonry walls for structural strength

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Shahi & Ghurid Campaigns** (Dynasty / Invader), the verified Core Territory & Capital is **North-West & Gangetic Doab**. Furthermore, Prithviraj III, Jayachandra vs. Muhammad Ghori. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #45 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q45. With reference to Sultanate Architectural Feature / Term and Technical Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Corbelled (Trabeate) Arch vs. True (Arcuate) Arch"?

(A) Geometric vegetal scroll-work & Quranic stone inscriptions

(B) Horizontal stone beam brackets (*Kadalika-karana*) vs. wedge-shaped Voussoirs locked by a central Keystone

(C) Thick inward-sloping rubble masonry walls for structural strength

(D) Crown land, transferable military assignment, and tax-free religious/charitable grants

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Corbelled (Trabeate) Arch vs. True (Arcuate) Arch** (Sultanate Architectural Feature / Term), the verified Technical Meaning is **Horizontal stone beam brackets (*Kadalika-karana*) vs. wedge-shaped Voussoirs locked by a central Keystone**. Furthermore, *Quwwat-ul-Islam* screen (Corbelled) vs. Tomb of Balban (1st True Arch) & Alai Darwaza (True Arch + Dome). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #46 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q46. With reference to Sultanate Architectural Feature / Term and Technical Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Arabesque, Pietra Dura & Calligraphic Kufic/Naskh"?

(A) Thick inward-sloping rubble masonry walls for structural strength

(B) Crown land, transferable military assignment, and tax-free religious/charitable grants

(C) Geometric vegetal scroll-work & Quranic stone inscriptions

(D) 1206–1210 CE

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Arabesque, Pietra Dura & Calligraphic Kufic/Naskh** (Sultanate Architectural Feature / Term), the verified Technical Meaning is **Geometric vegetal scroll-work & Quranic stone inscriptions**. Furthermore, Qutb Minar fluted red sandstone & marble bands (completed by Iltutmish; 5th storey repaired by Firoz Shah Tughlaq). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #47 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q47. With reference to Sultanate Architectural Feature / Term and Technical Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Battered (Sloping) Walls & Octagonal Tombs"?

(A) Crown land, transferable military assignment, and tax-free religious/charitable grants
(B) 1206–1210 CE
(C) 1210–1236 CE
(D) Thick inward-sloping rubble masonry walls for structural strength

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Battered (Sloping) Walls & Octagonal Tombs** (Sultanate Architectural Feature / Term), the verified Technical Meaning is **Thick inward-sloping rubble masonry walls for structural strength**. Furthermore, Tomb of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq (Tughlaqabad) & Khan-i-Jahan Telangani Tomb (first octagonal tomb in Delhi). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #48 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q48. With reference to Sultanate Architectural Feature / Term and Technical Meaning, which of the following is accurately matched with "Khalisa, Iqta, Inam / Idrar / Milk"?

(A) Crown land, transferable military assignment, and tax-free religious/charitable grants
(B) 1206–1210 CE
(C) 1210–1236 CE
(D) 1266–1287 CE

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Khalisa, Iqta, Inam / Idrar / Milk** (Sultanate Architectural Feature / Term), the verified Technical Meaning is **Crown land, transferable military assignment, and tax-free religious/charitable grants**. Furthermore, Confiscated under Alauddin Khalji; restored and expanded under Firoz Shah Tughlaq. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #49 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q49. With reference to Sultanate Ruler and Reign, which of the following is accurately matched with "Qutbuddin Aibak"?

(A) 1210–1236 CE
(B) 1206–1210 CE
(C) 1266–1287 CE
(D) 1296–1316 CE

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Qutbuddin Aibak** (Sultanate Ruler), the verified Reign is **1206–1210 CE**. Furthermore, Founder of Mamluk Rule (Lahore). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #50 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q50. With reference to Sultanate Ruler and Reign, which of the following is accurately matched with "Shamsuddin Iltutmish"?

(A) 1266–1287 CE
(B) 1296–1316 CE
(C) 1210–1236 CE
(D) 1316–1320 CE

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Shamsuddin Iltutmish** (Sultanate Ruler), the verified Reign is **1210–1236 CE**. Furthermore, Iqta System & Turkan-i-Chahalgani. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #51 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q51. With reference to Sultanate Ruler and Reign, which of the following is accurately matched with "Ghiyasuddin Balban"?

(A) 1296–1316 CE
(B) 1316–1320 CE
(C) *Taj-ul-Ma'asir* / *Adab-ul-Harb wa-sh-Shuja'at*
(D) 1266–1287 CE

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Ghiyasuddin Balban** (Sultanate Ruler), the verified Reign is **1266–1287 CE**. Furthermore, Diwan-i-Arz (Military Dept) & *Barids*. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #52 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q52. With reference to Sultanate Ruler and Reign, which of the following is accurately matched with "Alauddin Khalji"?

(A) 1296–1316 CE
(B) 1316–1320 CE
(C) *Taj-ul-Ma'asir* / *Adab-ul-Harb wa-sh-Shuja'at*
(D) Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi & Fatawa-i-Jahandari

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Alauddin Khalji** (Sultanate Ruler), the verified Reign is **1296–1316 CE**. Furthermore, Diwan-i-Riyasat (Markets) & Diwan-i-Mustakhraj (Arrears). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #53 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q53. With reference to Sultanate Ruler and Reign, which of the following is accurately matched with "Qutbuddin Mubarak Shah Khalji"?

(A) *Taj-ul-Ma'asir* / *Adab-ul-Harb wa-sh-Shuja'at*
(B) 1316–1320 CE
(C) Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi & Fatawa-i-Jahandari
(D) *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi* (90 *Muqaddamas*) / Futuh-us-Salatin (1350)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Qutbuddin Mubarak Shah Khalji** (Sultanate Ruler), the verified Reign is **1316–1320 CE**. Furthermore, Abolished Market Regulations. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #54 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q54. With reference to Medieval Historian and Primary Persian / Arabic Work, which of the following is accurately matched with "Hasan Nizami & Fakhr-i-Mudabbir"?

(A) Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi & Fatawa-i-Jahandari
(B) *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi* (90 *Muqaddamas*) / Futuh-us-Salatin (1350)
(C) *Taj-ul-Ma'asir* / *Adab-ul-Harb wa-sh-Shuja'at*
(D) Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Hasan Nizami & Fakhr-i-Mudabbir** (Medieval Historian), the verified Primary Persian / Arabic Work is ***Taj-ul-Ma'asir* / *Adab-ul-Harb wa-sh-Shuja'at***. Furthermore, Qutbuddin Aibak & Iltutmish. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #55 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q55. With reference to Medieval Historian and Primary Persian / Arabic Work, which of the following is accurately matched with "Ziauddin Barani"?

(A) *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi (90 Muqaddamas)* / Futuh-us-Salatin (1350)
(B) Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi
(C) Diwan-i-Insha
(D) Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi & Fatawa-i-Jahandari

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Ziauddin Barani** (Medieval Historian), the verified Primary Persian / Arabic Work is **Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi & Fatawa-i-Jahandari**. Furthermore, Muhammad bin Tughlaq & Firoz Shah Tughlaq. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #56 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q56. With reference to Medieval Historian and Primary Persian / Arabic Work, which of the following is accurately matched with "Shams-i-Siraj Afif & Isami"?

(A) *Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi (90 Muqaddamas)* / Futuh-us-Salatin (1350)
(B) Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi
(C) Diwan-i-Insha
(D) Diwan-i-Arz

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Shams-i-Siraj Afif & Isami** (Medieval Historian), the verified Primary Persian / Arabic Work is ***Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi (90 Muqaddamas)*** / **Futuh-us-Salatin (1350)**. Furthermore, Firoz Shah Tughlaq / Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #57 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q57. With reference to Medieval Historian and Primary Persian / Arabic Work, which of the following is accurately matched with "Yahya bin Ahmad Sirhindi"?

(A) Diwan-i-Insha
(B) Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi
(C) Diwan-i-Arz
(D) Diwan-i-Riyasat & Diwan-i-Mustakhraj

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Yahya bin Ahmad Sirhindi** (Medieval Historian), the verified Primary Persian / Arabic Work is **Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi**. Furthermore, Mubarak Shah Sayyid (15th Century). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #58 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q58. With reference to Central Sultanate Department and Arabic / Persian Title, which of the following is accurately matched with "Department of Correspondence"?

(A) Diwan-i-Arz
(B) Diwan-i-Riyasat & Diwan-i-Mustakhraj
(C) Diwan-i-Insha
(D) Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Department of Correspondence** (Central Sultanate Department), the verified Arabic / Persian Title is **Diwan-i-Insha**. Furthermore, Established from early Mamluk period. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #59 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q59. With reference to Central Sultanate Department and Arabic / Persian Title, which of the following is accurately matched with "Department of Military Affairs"?

(A) Diwan-i-Riyasat & Diwan-i-Mustakhraj
(B) Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi
(C) Diwan-i-Bandagan, Diwan-i-Khairat, Diwan-i-Istihqaq
(D) Diwan-i-Arz

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Department of Military Affairs** (Central Sultanate Department), the verified Arabic / Persian Title is **Diwan-i-Arz**. Furthermore, Ghiyasuddin Balban (Expanded by Alauddin). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #60 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q60. With reference to Central Sultanate Department and Arabic / Persian Title, which of the following is accurately matched with "Department of Market Control / Revenue Arrears"?

(A) Diwan-i-Riyasat & Diwan-i-Mustakhraj
(B) Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi
(C) Diwan-i-Bandagan, Diwan-i-Khairat, Diwan-i-Istihqaq
(D) Morocco (1333–47)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Department of Market Control / Revenue Arrears** (Central Sultanate Department), the verified Arabic / Persian Title is **Diwan-i-Riyasat & Diwan-i-Mustakhraj**. Furthermore, Alauddin Khalji. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #61 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q61. With reference to Central Sultanate Department and Arabic / Persian Title, which of the following is accurately matched with "Department of Agriculture"?

(A) Diwan-i-Bandagan, Diwan-i-Khairat, Diwan-i-Istihqaq
(B) Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi
(C) Morocco (1333–47)
(D) Venice, Italy (c. 1420)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Department of Agriculture** (Central Sultanate Department), the verified Arabic / Persian Title is **Diwan-i-Amir-i-Kohi**. Furthermore, Muhammad bin Tughlaq. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #62 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q62. With reference to Central Sultanate Department and Arabic / Persian Title, which of the following is accurately matched with "Departments of Slaves, Charity & Pensions"?

(A) Morocco (1333–47)
(B) Venice, Italy (c. 1420)
(C) Diwan-i-Bandagan, Diwan-i-Khairat, Diwan-i-Istihqaq
(D) Herat, Persia (1443)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Departments of Slaves, Charity & Pensions** (Central Sultanate Department), the verified Arabic / Persian Title is **Diwan-i-Bandagan, Diwan-i-Khairat, Diwan-i-Istihqaq**. Furthermore, Firoz Shah Tughlaq. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #63 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q63. With reference to Foreign Traveller and Country & Year of Visit, which of the following is accurately matched with “Ibn Battuta”?

(A) Venice, Italy (c. 1420)
(B) Herat, Persia (1443)
(C) Portugal (1500–16 & 1520–22)
(D) Morocco (1333–47)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Ibn Battuta** (Foreign Traveller), the verified Country & Year of Visit is **Morocco (1333–47)**. Furthermore, Harihara I (Foundation Era). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #64 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q64. With reference to Foreign Traveller and Country & Year of Visit, which of the following is accurately matched with “Niccolo de' Conti”?

(A) Venice, Italy (c. 1420)
(B) Herat, Persia (1443)
(C) Portugal (1500–16 & 1520–22)
(D) Portugal (1535–37) & Italy (1567)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Niccolo de' Conti** (Foreign Traveller), the verified Country & Year of Visit is **Venice, Italy (c. 1420)**. Furthermore, Deva Raya I (Sangama). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #65 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q65. With reference to Foreign Traveller and Country & Year of Visit, which of the following is accurately matched with “Abdur Razzaq”?

(A) Portugal (1500–16 & 1520–22)
(B) Herat, Persia (1443)
(C) Portugal (1535–37) & Italy (1567)
(D) Bijapur (Vijayapura)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Abdur Razzaq** (Foreign Traveller), the verified Country & Year of Visit is **Herat, Persia (1443)**. Furthermore, Deva Raya II (Sangama). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #66 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q66. With reference to Foreign Traveller and Country & Year of Visit, which of the following is accurately matched with “Duarte Barbosa & Domingo Paes”?

(A) Portugal (1535–37) & Italy (1567)
(B) Bijapur (Vijayapura)
(C) Portugal (1500–16 & 1520–22)
(D) Ahmadnagar

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Duarte Barbosa & Domingo Paes** (Foreign Traveller), the verified Country & Year of Visit is **Portugal (1500–16 & 1520–22)**. Furthermore, Krishnadevaraya (Tuluva). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #67 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q67. With reference to Foreign Traveller and Country & Year of Visit, which of the following is accurately matched with "Fernao Nuniz & Caesar Frederick"?

(A) Bijapur (Vijayapura)
(B) Ahmadnagar
(C) Golconda / Hyderabad
(D) Portugal (1535–37) & Italy (1567)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Fernao Nuniz & Caesar Frederick** (Foreign Traveller), the verified Country & Year of Visit is **Portugal (1535–37) & Italy (1567)**. Furthermore, Achyuta Deva Raya & Post-Talikota Tirumala. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #68 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q68. With reference to Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller and Capital / Home Country, which of the following is accurately matched with "Bijapur (1490–1686)"?

(A) Bijapur (Vijayapura)
(B) Ahmadnagar
(C) Golconda / Hyderabad
(D) Ellichpur / Bidar

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Bijapur (1490–1686)** (Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller), the verified Capital / Home Country is **Bijapur (Vijayapura)**. Furthermore, Adil Shahi — Yusuf Adil Shah. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #69 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q69. With reference to Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller and Capital / Home Country, which of the following is accurately matched with "Ahmadnagar (1490–1633)"?

(A) Golconda / Hyderabad
(B) Ahmadnagar
(C) Ellichpur / Bidar
(D) Italy (1420), Persia (1443), Portugal (1520, 1535)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Ahmadnagar (1490–1633)** (Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller), the verified Capital / Home Country is **Ahmadnagar**. Furthermore, Nizam Shahi — Malik Ahmad. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #70 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q70. With reference to Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller and Capital / Home Country, which of the following is accurately matched with "Golconda (1518–1687)"?

(A) Ellichpur / Bidar
(B) Italy (1420), Persia (1443), Portugal (1520, 1535)
(C) Golconda / Hyderabad
(D) 1469–1539 CE

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Golconda (1518–1687)** (Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller), the verified Capital / Home Country is **Golconda / Hyderabad**. Furthermore, Qutb Shahi — Quli Qutb-ul-Mulk. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #71 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q71. With reference to Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller and Capital / Home Country, which of the following is accurately matched with "Berar (1490) & Bidar (1526)"?

(A) Italy (1420), Persia (1443), Portugal (1520, 1535)
(B) 1469–1539 CE
(C) 1539–1552 & 1552–1574
(D) Ellichpur / Bidar

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Berar (1490) & Bidar (1526)** (Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller), the verified Capital / Home Country is **Ellichpur / Bidar**. Furthermore, Imad Shahi (Fathullah Imad-ul-Mulk) & Barid Shahi (Qasim/Amir Ali Barid). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #72 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q72. With reference to Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller and Capital / Home Country, which of the following is accurately matched with "Niccolo de' Conti, Abdur Razzaq, Domingo Paes, Fernao Nuniz"?

(A) Italy (1420), Persia (1443), Portugal (1520, 1535)
(B) 1469–1539 CE
(C) 1539–1552 & 1552–1574
(D) 1574–1581 & 1581–1606

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Niccolo de' Conti, Abdur Razzaq, Domingo Paes, Fernao Nuniz** (Deccan Sultanate / Foreign Traveller), the verified Capital / Home Country is **Italy (1420), Persia (1443), Portugal (1520, 1535)**. Furthermore, Visited Deva Raya I, Deva Raya II, Krishnadevaraya, and Achyuta Deva Raya respectively. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #73 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q73. With reference to Sikh Guru and Guruship Period, which of the following is accurately matched with "1. Guru Nanak Dev Ji"?

(A) 1539–1552 & 1552–1574
(B) 1469–1539 CE
(C) 1574–1581 & 1581–1606
(D) 1606–1644, 1644–1661, 1661–1664

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **1. Guru Nanak Dev Ji** (Sikh Guru), the verified Guruship Period is **1469–1539 CE**. Furthermore, Born at Talwandi; *Ik Onkar*, Sangat & Langar at Kartarpur. (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #74 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q74. With reference to Sikh Guru and Guruship Period, which of the following is accurately matched with "2. Guru Angad Dev & 3. Guru Amar Das"?

(A) 1574–1581 & 1581–1606
(B) 1606–1644, 1644–1661, 1661–1664
(C) 1539–1552 & 1552–1574
(D) 1664–1675 & 1675–1708

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **2. Guru Angad Dev & 3. Guru Amar Das** (Sikh Guru), the verified Guruship Period is **1539–1552 & 1552–1574**. Furthermore, Standardized Gurmukhi Script (Angad); made *Langar* compulsory (*Pehle Pangat Phir Sangat*), 22 *Manjis*, Anand Karaj marriage, opposed *Sati* (Amar Das). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #75 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q75. With reference to Sikh Guru and Guruship Period, which of the following is accurately matched with "4. Guru Ram Das & 5. Guru Arjan Dev"?

(A) 1606–1644, 1644–1661, 1661–1664
(B) 1664–1675 & 1675–1708
(C) Advaita (Non-Dualism)
(D) 1574–1581 & 1581–1606

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **4. Guru Ram Das & 5. Guru Arjan Dev** (Sikh Guru), the verified Guruship Period is **1574–1581 & 1581–1606**. Furthermore, Founded Chak Ramdas / Amritsar (Ram Das); built Harmandir Sahib, compiled Adi Granth (1604), martyred at Lahore (Arjan Dev). (Source: NCERT Medieval India Textbooks & IUC Academy).

Rapid-Fire Last-Minute One-Liner Revision Capsule

1. **Dantidurga (753 CE):** Founder of the Rashtrakuta Empire who overthrew the Badami Chalukyas and performed the **Hiranyagarbha** ("Golden Womb") sacrifice at Ujjain (NCERT).

2. **Vikramashila Mahavihara (Bhagalpur, Bihar):** Founded by Pala king **Dharmapala** in the late 8th century CE; famous for Vajrayana Buddhist scholar **Atisha Dipankara** (ASI).

3. **Mihira Bhoja (836–885 CE):** Greatest Gurjara-Pratihara ruler of Kannauj; issued silver *Dramma* coins bearing the Vaishnava title **Adi-Varaha** (National Museum).

4. **Battle of Takkolam (949 CE):** Battle where Rashtrakuta king **Krishna III** (with Western Ganga ally Butuga II) defeated Chola ruler **Parantaka I** (NCERT).

5. **Rajatarangini ("River of Kings", 1148–50 CE):** Composed in Sanskrit verse (8 *Tarangas*) by **Kalhana** during the reign of Lohara king **Jayasimha** of Kashmir (Indian Culture Portal).

6. **Chachnama (Fatehnama-i-Sindh):** Primary Persian historical source chronicling the Arab conquest of Sindh by **Muhammad bin Qasim** in 712 CE (NCERT).

7. **Kitab-ul-Hind by Al-Biruni:** Written in **Arabic**, divided into **80 chapters** covering Indian religion, philosophy, astronomy, metrology, laws, and caste (*Varna*) (NCERT).

8. **First & Second Battles of Tarain (1191 & 1192 CE): Prithviraj Chauhan III** defeated Muhammad Ghori in 1191, before Ghori triumphed in 1192 using mounted archer tactics (NCERT).

9. **Battle of Chandawar (1194 CE):** Battle near Firozabad/Etawah where **Muhammad Ghori** defeated and killed Gahadavala king **Jayachandra of Kannauj** (NCERT).

10. **Lakh Bakhsh & Qur'an Khwan:** Titles conferred on **Qutbuddin Aibak** for his munificent charity and melodious recitation of the Quran (NCERT).

11. **Tabaqat-i-Nasiri:** 23-volume Persian history completed in 1260 CE by **Minhaj-i-Siraj Juzjani**, dedicated to Mamluk Sultan **Nasiruddin Mahmud** (Indian Culture Portal).

12. **Turkan-i-Chahalgani (The Forty):** Elite corps of forty Turkic slave-officers organized by **Iltutmish** and systematically eliminated by **Ghiyasuddin Balban** (NCERT).

13. **Fawazil:** In the Delhi Sultanate **Iqta system**, the **surplus revenue** that an *Iqtadar* / *Muqti* had to remit to the central royal treasury after meeting his own salary and troop expenses (UPSC).

14. **Amir Khusrau (1253–1325 CE):** Styled *Tuti-i-Hind* ("Parrot of India"); served Sultans from Balban to Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq, authored *Khazain-ul-Futuh*, *Nuh Sipihr*, and *Tughlaqnama*, and pioneered **Sitar, Tabla, Qawwali, and Hindavi** verse (Indian Culture Portal).

15. **Biswa:** Standard unit of agricultural land area measurement (1/20th of a *Bigha*) adopted by **Alauddin Khalji** to assess **50% Kharaj** (NCERT).

16. **Ghari and Charai:** Two direct taxes — **House Tax (*Ghari*)** and **Pasture/Milch-Cattle Tax (*Charai*)** — imposed by **Alauddin Khalji** (NCERT).

17. **Ibn Battuta (1333–1347 CE):** Moroccan traveller from Tangier who arrived during **Muhammad bin Tughlaq's** reign and authored the Arabic travelogue **Rihla** (NCERT).

18. **Jinaprabha Suri:** Distinguished **Jaina monk** and author of *Vividha Tirtha Kalpa* who was honoured at midnight court discussions by **Muhammad bin Tughlaq** (UPSC).

19. **Dar-ul-Shafa:** Free state hospital established in Delhi by **Firoz Shah Tughlaq** with qualified physicians and free medicines/food (NCERT).

20. **Timur's Invasion of Delhi (1398 CE):** Occurred during the reign of the last Tughlaq ruler **Nasiruddin Mahmud**, dealing a fatal blow to Tughlaq authority (NCERT).

21. **Gaz-i-Sikandari:** Standardized **32-digit (39-inch)** land measuring yard introduced by **Sikandar Lodi**, remaining in force until Akbar introduced the 41-digit *Ilahi Gaz* (UPSC).

22. **Harihara I and Bukka I (1336 CE):** Founders of the **Vijayanagara Empire** (Sangama Dynasty) on the southern bank of the **Tungabhadra River** (ASI).

23. **Madhuravijayam (Kamparaya Charitam):** Sanskrit historical poem by princess **Gangadevi** chronicling her husband **Kumara Kampana's** overthrow of the Madurai Sultanate (Indian Culture Portal).

24. **Ashtadiggajas ("Eight Elephants"):** Eight master Telugu poets at **Krishnadevaraya's** court (*Bhuvana Vijayam*), headed by **Allasani Peddana** (*Manucharitamu*) (Indian Culture Portal).

25. **Vitthala Temple (Hampi):** Constructed mainly under **Krishnadevaraya** and **Achyuta Deva Raya**; world-famous for its monolithic **Stone Chariot (Garuda Shrine)** and 56 musical *Sa-Re-Ga-Ma* pillars (ASI).

26. **Amara-Nayakas:** Military commanders under Vijayanagara who administered *Amaram* territories, maintained cavalry/elephant contingents, and submitted annual tribute (NCERT).

27. **Chand Bibi (1550–1599 CE):** Warrior queen regent of **Bijapur** and **Ahmadnagar** who heroically defended Ahmadnagar Fort against Akbar's Mughal forces in 1595 (NCERT).

28. **Ibrahim Adil Shah II of Bijapur (1580–1627 CE):** Known as **Abla Baba** ("Friend of the Poor") and **Jagadguru Badshah**; authored the Dakhini Urdu musical anthology **Kitab-i-Nauras** (Indian Culture Portal).

29. **Malik Ambar (1548–1626 CE):** Abyssinian (*Habshi*) Prime Minister of **Ahmadnagar** who pioneered **Bargi-giri** (Deccan guerrilla warfare) and implemented Todar Mal-style land revenue reforms in the Deccan (NCERT).

30. **Gol Gumbaz (Bijapur, 1656 CE):** Mausoleum of **Muhammad Adil Shah** featuring one of the largest unsupported single-chamber domes in the world and an acoustic **Whispering Gallery** (ASI).

31. **Four Cardinal Mathas of Adi Shankaracharya: Jyotirmath** (Badrinath, North), **Govardhana Matha** (Puri, East), **Sharada Peetham** (Sringeri, South), and **Kalika Matha** (Dwaraka, West) (Indian Culture Portal).

32. **Bijak ("The Seed / Invoice"):** Sacred scripture of the **Kabirpanthi** tradition containing Kabir's *Sakhi*, *Sabad*, *and Ramaini* compositions (NCERT).

33. **Varkari Movement (Maharashtra):** Devotional pilgrimage movement centred on **Lord Vitthala at Pandharpur**, led by **Jnaneshwar, Namdev, Eknath, and Tukaram** (NCERT).

34. **Dasbodh:** Practical and spiritual Marathi treatise emphasizing active worldly duty (*Prapancha* and *Paramartha*) authored by **Samarth Guru Ramdas** (Indian Culture Portal).

35. **Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti (Gharib Nawaz):** Founder of the **Chishti Silsilah** in India whose shrine (**Dargah Sharif at Ajmer**) was visited on foot by **Emperor Akbar** 14 times (ASI).

36. **Fawa'id-ul-Fu'ad ("Morals for the Heart"):** Celebrated *Malfuzat* compilation of the spiritual conversations of **Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya**, recorded by poet **Amir Hasan Sijzi** (NCERT).

37. **Baba Farid (Fariduddin Ganj-i-Shakar):** Chishti Sufi saint of Ajodhan (Pakpattan) whose Punjabi mystical verses (*Slokas* and *Shabads*) were included in the **Guru Granth Sahib** (NCERT).

38. **Guru Gobind Singh Ji (1666–1708 CE):** Tenth Sikh Guru who founded the **Khalsa Panth** at Anandpur Sahib in **1699**, authored the Persian **Zafarnama** letter to Aurangzeb, and ended the line of human Gurus (NCERT).

39. **Tulughma and Araba:** Ottoman-inspired enveloping cavalry tactic (*Tulughma*) and wagon-laager artillery formation (*Araba*) used by **Babur** at the First Battle of Panipat (1526) (NCERT).

40. **Tuzuk-i-Baburi (Baburnama):** Written originally in **Chagatai Turkic** by Babur; notes **Krishnadevaraya of Vijayanagara** as the most powerful ruler in contemporary India (NCERT).

41. **Battles of Chausa (1539) & Kanauj/Bilgram (1540):** Two decisive battles in which **Sher Shah Suri** defeated **Humayun** to establish the Second Afghan (Sur) Empire (NCERT).

42. **Padmavat (1540 CE):** Allegorical Sufi-romance epic in the **Awadhi** language composed by **Malik Muhammad Jayasi** during the reign of **Sher Shah Suri** (Indian Culture Portal).

43. **Second Battle of Panipat (5 November 1556):** Battle where Akbar's regent **Bairam Khan** defeated **Hemu (Hemchandra Vikramaditya)**, general of Adil Shah Suri (NCERT).

44. **Battle of Haldighati (18 June 1576):** Fought in the Aravalli pass between **Maharana Pratap of Mewar** (assisted by **Hakim Khan Sur** and Bhil archers of Rana Punja) and the Mughal army led by **Kunwar Man Singh of Amber** (NCERT).

45. **Sulh-i-Kul ("Absolute / Universal Peace"):** Cornerstone of **Akbar's** state policy formulated with **Abul Fazl**, guaranteeing non-discrimination and harmony across all religious communities (NCERT).

46. **Buland Darwaza (Fatehpur Sikri):** 54-meter-high monumental gateway built in red and buff sandstone by **Akbar** to commemorate his **conquest of Gujarat (1572–73)** (ASI).

47. **Mian Tansen (Ramtanu Pandey):** Musical jewel among Akbar's *Navaratnas*, originally at the court of Raja Ramchandra Singh of Rewa; honoured by Akbar with the title **Mian** and composer of *Mian ki Todi*, *Mian ki Malhar*, and *Darbari Kanada* (Indian Culture Portal).

48. **Daswanth and Basawan:** Foremost master painters of **Akbar's *Tasvir Khana*** lauded by Abul Fazl in the *Ain-i-Akbari* (illustrated the *Hamzanama*, *Razmnama*, and *Akbarnama*) (National Museum).

49. **Captain William Hawkins (1608–11) & Sir Thomas Roe (1615–19):** English envoys received at the court of **Emperor Jahangir** at Agra and Ajmer/Mandu (NCERT).

50. **Ustad Ahmad Lahori:** Chief architect appointed by **Shah Jahan** to design the **Taj Mahal** (Agra) and the **Red Fort** (Shahjahanabad), honoured with the title *Nadir-ul-Asr* (ASI).

51. **Battle of Samugarh (29 May 1658):** Decisive battle near Agra in the Mughal War of Succession where **Aurangzeb and Murad** defeated Crown Prince **Dara Shikoh** (NCERT).

52. **Treaty of Purandar (11 June 1665):** Negotiated between **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** and **Mirza Raja Jai Singh I** (personally witnessed by Italian chronicler **Niccolao Manucci**) (NCERT).

53. **Bibi Ka Maqbara (Aurangabad, 1679 CE):** Mausoleum of Aurangzeb's wife **Dilras Banu Begum (Rabia-ud-Daurani)** commissioned by Aurangzeb/Prince Azam Shah, known as the "*Taj of the Deccan*" (ASI).

54. **Chauth (25%) & Sardeshmukhi (10%):** Twin external revenue levies collected by the **Marathas** representing one-fourth and one-tenth of assessed revenue respectively (NCERT).

55. **Kathi, Bigha, and Chavar:** Land measurement units standardized under **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** by revenue minister **Annaji Datto** in 1679 (UPSC).

56. **Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah I (Chin Qilich Khan):** Founded the autonomous state of **Hyderabad in 1724 CE** after defeating Mubariz Khan at the Battle of Shakar Kheda (NCERT).

57. **Murshid Quli Khan:** Appointed *Diwan* (1700) and *Subahdar* (1717) of **Bengal**; shifted the capital from Dhaka to **Murshidabad** and introduced the **Malzamini** revenue farming system (NCERT).

58. **Saadat Khan Burhan-ul-Mulk (1722 CE):** Founder of the autonomous principality of **Awadh** with its initial capital at **Faizabad** (later shifted to **Lucknow** by Asaf-ud-Daulah in 1775) (NCERT).

59. **Sawai Jai Singh II of Amber (1688–1743 CE):** Founded the planned pink-sandstone city of **Jaipur (1727)** (designed by architect **Vidyadhar Bhattacharya**), compiled the *Zij-i-Muhammad Shahi* astronomical tables, and built five **Jantar Mantar** observatories at **Delhi, Jaipur, Varanasi, Ujjain, and Mathura** (ASI).

60. **Martanda Varma (1729–1758 CE):** Maker of modern **Travancore (Kerala)** who defeated the **Dutch East India Company** at the **Battle of Colachel (10 August 1741)** — the first decisive defeat of a European naval/colonial power by an Asian ruler (NCERT).

IUC Academy *1-3-7-21* Day Spaced-Revision & Self-Assessment Tracker (www.iucacademy.com)

Chapter / Study Section	Day 1 (First Read)	Day 3 (Active Recall)	Day 7 (MCQ Drill)	Day 21 (Exam Ready)
1. Chapter 1: Early Medieval India (750–1200 CE) — Tripartite Struggle, Rajputs, Ghaznavid & Ghurid Invasions	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
2. Chapter 2: The Delhi Sultanate I — Mamluk (Slave) and Khalji Dynasties (1206–1320 CE)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
3. Chapter 3: The Delhi Sultanate II — Tughlaq, Sayyid & Lodi Dynasties, Iqta System & Sultanate Architecture	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
4. Chapter 4: The Vijayanagara Empire & Bahmani Sultanate — Deccan Polity, Nayankara System & Hampi Art	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
5. Chapter 5: Bhakti and Sufi Movements — Sant Tradition, Chishti-Suhrawardi Silsilahs & Sikh Gurus	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
6. Chapter 6: Establishment of the Mughal Empire — Babur, Humayun, Sher Shah Suri's Reforms & Akbar the Great	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
7. Chapter 7: Climax & Crisis of the Mughal Empire — Jahangir, Shah Jahan, Aurangzeb, Mansabdari & Jagirdari	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
8. Chapter 8: Rise of the Maratha State under Shivaji Maharaj, Ashtapradhan, Peshwas & Regional Successor States	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
9. Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
10. Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions 36–75)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
11. Rapid-Fire Last-Minute One-Liner Revision Capsule	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**