

History of Medieval India

[UPSC Notes]

The Medieval History section includes the following topics:

- North Indian Kingdoms
- Kingdoms of the Deccan
- Delhi Sultanate
- Islamic Kingdoms in India
- Vijayanagara Empire
- Bhakti and Other Cultural & Religious Movements
- Mughal and Sur rule and the Arrival of Europeans

The topics that are included in the History of Medieval India Notes for UPSC and should be studied for the upcoming [UPSC Exam](#). The micro-topics related to these topics are as follows:

- Major Dynasties of Medieval History, their Administration and Economy.
 - The Pratiharas (8th to 10th Century)
 - The Palas (8th to 11th Century)
 - The Tripartite Conflict
 - The Senas (11th to 12th Century)
 - The Rajaputas
 - Pallavas
 - Chalukyas
 - Rashtrakutas
 - Administration
 - Society and Culture
 - Economy and the decline of Trade
- Cholas and Other South Indian Kingdoms
 - Chola Rulers and Political History
 - Chola Administration
 - Socio-Economic Life
 - Education and Literature
 - The Cheras
 - The Yadavas
 - Contact with South-East Asia
- Muslim Invansion
 - The Arab Conquest of Sindh
 - Mahmud of Ghazni
 - Muhammad Ghori
- History of Medieval India Notes on Delhi Sultanate
 - Slave Dynasty
 - Khalji Dynasty
 - Tughlaq Dynasty
 - Provincial Kingdoms and Resistance by Indian Chiefs
 - Sayyid Dynasty
 - Lodi Dynasty
 - Attacks by Mongolas and other Turks
 - Administration and Economy

- Urbanization
- Society, Culture, Scientific Knowledge and Legal System
- Challenges leading to the decline of the Sultanate
- Struggle for Empire in North India
 - Struggle between Ibrahim Lodi and Babur
 - The Battle of Panipat
 - Babur's problems after the Battle of Panipat
 - Struggle with Rana Sanga
 - Problems of the Eastern Areas and the Afghans
 - Babur's Contribution and Significance of his Advent into India
 - Humayun and the Afghans
 - Early Activities of Humayun, and the Tussle with Bahadur Shah
 - The Gujarat Campaign
 - The Bengal Campaign, and Struggle with Sher Khan
 - The Sur Empire (1540-56)
 - Contributions of Sher Shah
 - Conflict with the Afghans and Hemu- 2nd Battle of Panipat
 - Struggle with the Nobility: Bairam Khan's Regency; Revolt of Uzbek Nobles
 - Early Expansion of the Empire (1560-76) - Malwa, Garh-Katanga, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Eastern India
 - Relations with the Rajputs - Growth of a Composite Ruling Class
 - Rebellions, and Further Expansion of the Empire in the North West
- History of Medieval India Notes on Empire and Government under Akbar
 - Akbar's Concept of Suzerainty
 - Structure of Government, Central and Provincial -the Vikalat, the Central Ministries, Provincial
 - Government, District and Local Government
 - The Working of Government - the Ruler, Land-Revenue System, the Dahsala System, the Mansabdari System and the Army
- Akbar's Religious Views
 - Relations with the Ulama and Social Reforms
 - The Early Phase (1556-73)
 - The Second Phase (1573-80) - the Ibadat Khana
 - Debates - the Mahzar - Breach with Orthodox
 - Ulama - Re-organisation of Madadd-i-Maash Grants
 - Third or Final Phase - Din-i-Ilahi - State
 - Policies and religious toleration
- History of Medieval India Notes on Mughals and the Deccan
 - The Deccani States up to 1595
 - Mughal Advance towards the Deccan
 - Mughal Conquest of Berar, Khandesh and Parts of Ahmadnagar
 - Rise of Malik Ambar Mughal Attempt at Consolidation (1601-27)
 - Extinction of Ahmadnagar, Acceptance of Mughal
 - Suzerainty by Bijapur and Golconda
 - Shah Jahan and the Deccan (1636-57)
 - Cultural Contribution of the Deccani States
- Foreign Policy of Mughals
 - Akbar and the Uzbeks
 - The Question of Qandahar and Relations with Iran
 - Shah Jahan's Balkh Campaign
 - Mughal - Persian Relations - the Last Phase

- India in the First Half of the Seventeenth Century
 - Jahangir's Accession and his Early Difficulties
 - Territorial Consolidation and Expansion of the Empire - Mewar, East India and Kangra
 - NurJahan, and the NurJahan 'Junta'
 - The Rebellions of Shah Jahan, and the coup de main of Mahabat Khan
 - Jahangir as a Ruler
 - State and Religion in the First Half of the Seventeenth Century
 - Shah Jahan - Consolidation and Expansion of the Empire
 - Evolution of the Mughal Ruling Class and the Mansabdari System
- Crisis of Mughal Empire: The Marathas and the Deccan Kingdoms
 - Rise of the Marathas - Early Career of Shivaji
 - Treaty of Purandar - the Agra Visit
 - Aurangzeb and the Deccani States (1658-87)
 - Marathas and the Deccan (1687-1707)
 - Assessment of Aurangzeb and the Jagirdari Crisis
- Marathas and the Other Indian States and Society in the 18th Century
 - The Marathas and their Policy of Expansion
 - The Marathas and Nizam-ul-Mulk
 - The Maratha Advance into Gujarat and Malwa
 - The Maratha Advance into Doab and Punjab:
 - First Phase (1741-52); Second Phase (1752-61);
 - Third Battle of Panipat
 - Shivaji (1627-1680)
 - Shivaji's administration
 - Successors of Shivaji
 - The Peshwas (1713-1818)
 - Other Indian States (The Bhonsles The Gaikwads Holkars Sindhias)
 - Economic Condition in 18th Century
- History of Medieval India Notes on Vijaynagar Empire
 - Sources
 - Political History
 - Administration
 - Social and Cultural Life
 - Economic Condition
 - Conflicts with the Bahmani Kingdom
- North India in First Half of the Eighteenth Century
 - Regional States of North and South India (Bahmani, Bengal, Avadh, The Sikhs, Rajput States Jats Hyderabad Mysore)
 - Bahadur Shah I, and the Beginning of the Struggle For Wizarat
 - Rajput Affairs
 - Marathas and the Deccan – Accentuation of the Party Struggle
 - Struggle for 'New' Wizarat: Zulfiqar Khan and Jahandar Shah (1712-13)
 - The Saiyid Brothers' Struggle for 'New' Wizarat
 - The Saiyid 'New' Wizarat
 - The Wizarat of M. Amin Khan and Nizam-ul-Mulk
 - Rise of Regional States, Beginning of Foreign Invasions of India (1725-48)
 - Companies - Position of Indian Merchants Over-land Trade
 - The Mughal State and Commerce
 - Trend of India's Economy and Prospects during the First Half of the Eighteenth Century