

CLASS VII CHAPTER 3 Delhi: 12th to 15th Century

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QUESTION - ANSWER



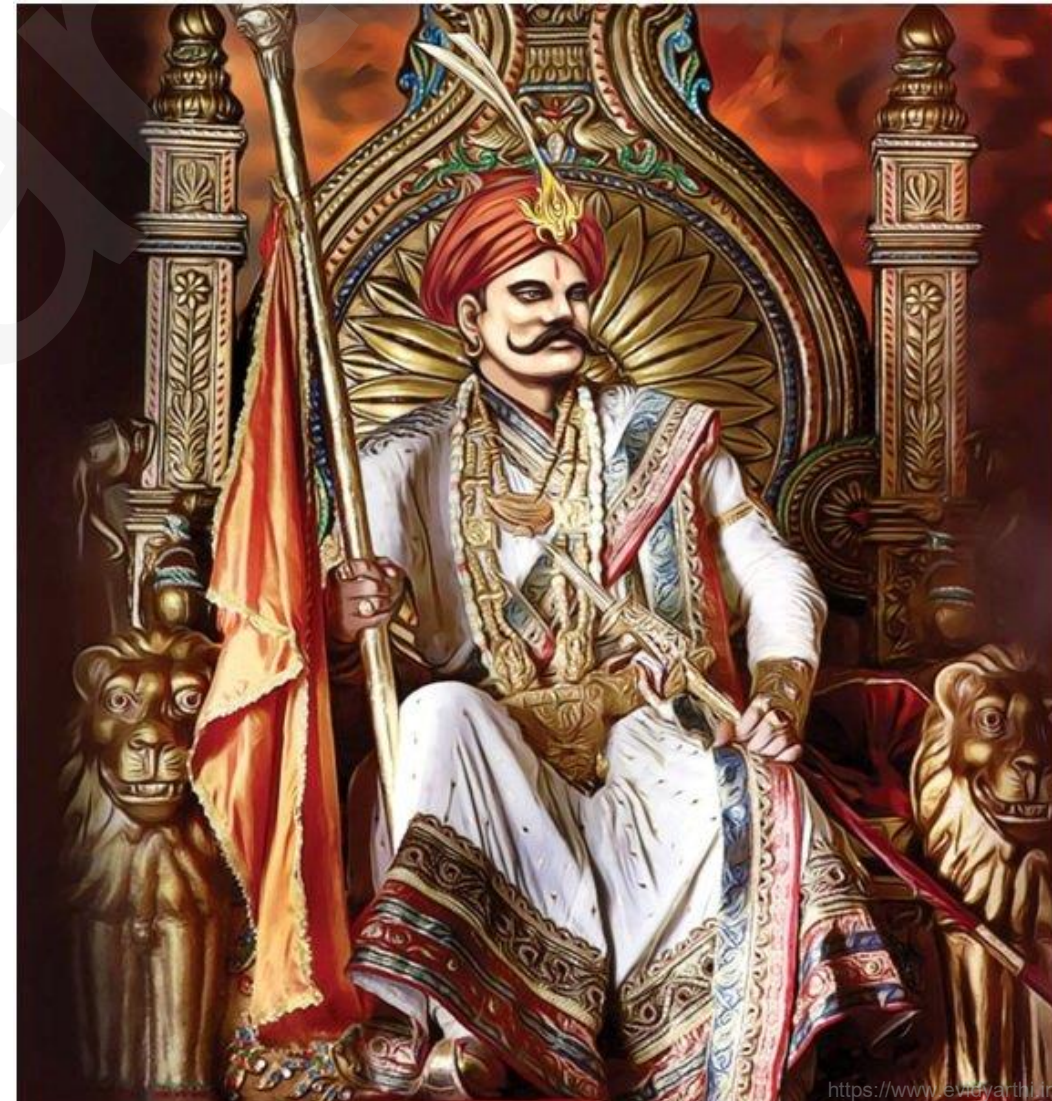
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Question 1. Which ruler first established his or her capital at Delhi?

Answer: The Tomara Rajput's were the first rulers who established their capital at Delhi.

ANANGA PALA 1130–1145



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Question 2. What was the language of administration under the Delhi Sultans?

FARSI

Answer: It was **PERSIAN**.



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Question 3. In whose reign did the Sultanate reach its farthest extent?

Answer: The Sultanate reached its farthest extent during the reign of **MUHAMMAD TUGHLUQ**.

Muhammad
Tughluq



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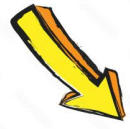
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IBN BATTUTA

Question 4. From which country did Ibn Battuta travel to India?

Answer: Battuta belonged to Morocco, Africa and travelled to India.





Important box

Chieftains and their fortifications

Ibn Battuta, a fourteenth-century traveller from Morocco, Africa, explained that chieftains sometimes

fortified themselves in mountains, in rocky, uneven and rugged places as well as in bamboo groves. In India the bamboo is not hollow; it is big. Its several parts are so intertwined that even fire cannot affect them, and they are on the whole very strong. The chieftains live in these forests which serve them as ramparts, inside which are their cattle and their crops. There is also water for them within, that is, rain water which collects there. Hence they cannot be subdued except by powerful armies, who entering these forests, cut down the bamboos with specially prepared instruments.

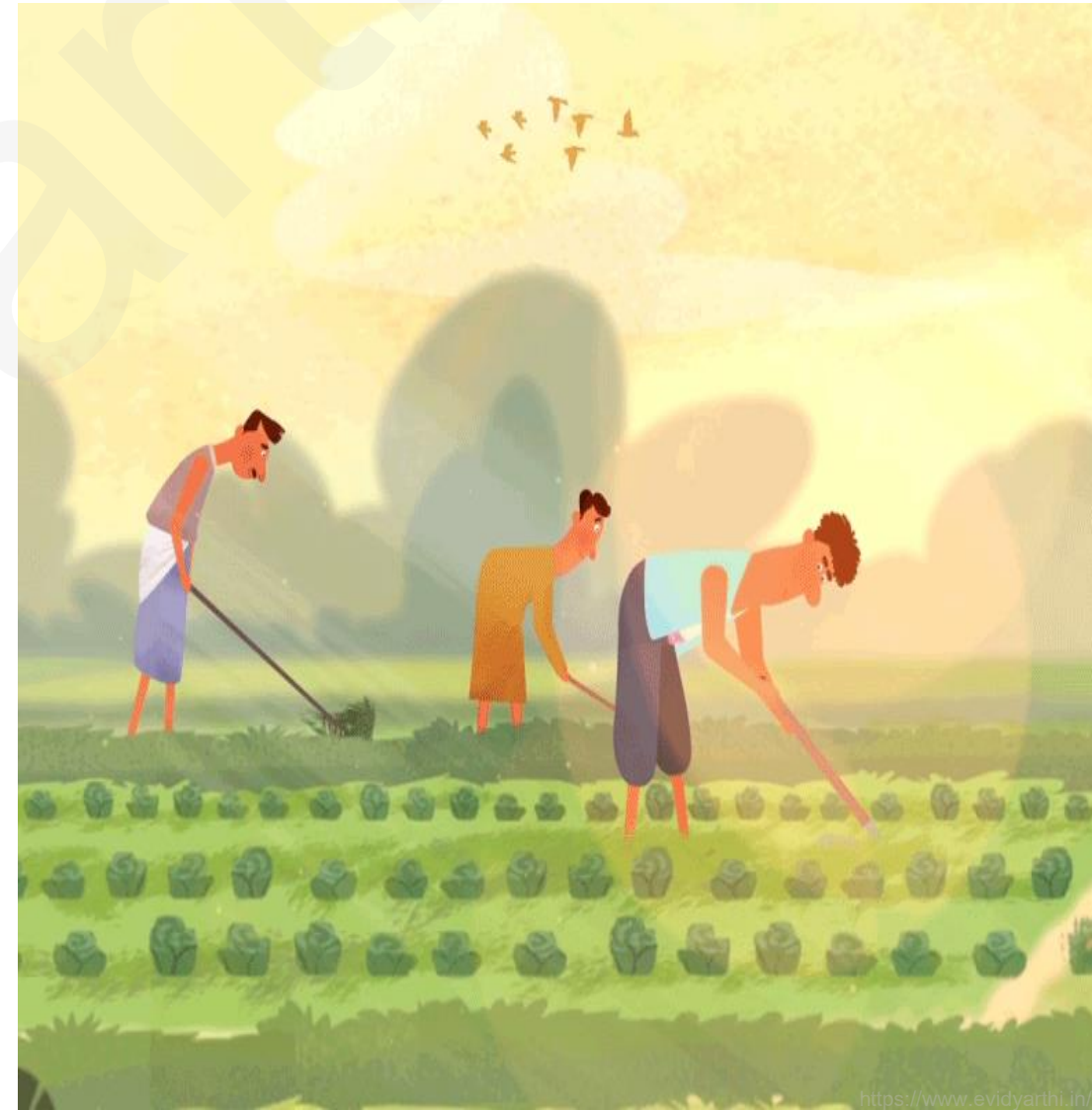


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Question 5. According to the 'circle of justice' why was it important for military commanders to keep the interests of the peasantry in mind?

Answer: Peasantry was the backbone of the entire kingdom. The king could not do anything without it because it was the source of revenue.





Important box

The circle of justice

Fakhr-i Mudabbir wrote in the thirteenth century:

A king cannot survive without soldiers. And soldiers cannot live without salaries. Salaries come from the revenue collected from peasants. But peasants can pay revenue only when they are prosperous and happy. This happens when the king promotes justice and honest governance.



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The soldiers got the salaries which came from this revenue.

Hence, it was necessary to keep the peasants prosperous and happy because only then they could be able to pay revenue. Now, it becomes clear why the **military commanders** kept the interests of the peasantry at top.



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Question 6. What is meant by the 'internal' and 'external' frontiers of the Sultanate?

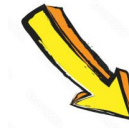
Answer: The 'internal' frontier means the hinterland of the garrison town. The 'external' frontier means the areas beyond the hinterland of the garrison towns.

INTERNAL



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HINTERLAND

Question 7. What were the steps taken to ensure that muqtis performed their duties? Why do you think they may have wanted to defy the orders of the Sultans?

Answer: **The steps taken are given below:**

1. Accountants were appointed by the state to check the amount of revenue collected by the



2. Care was taken that the **MUQTI** collected only the taxes prescribed by the state and not more than that.

3. It was also taken care that he kept only the required number of soldiers.

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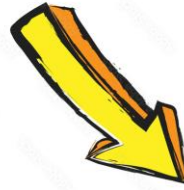
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The **MUQTIS** may have wanted to defy the orders to the Sultans because their appointment was not **HEREDITARY**. Also, their job was transferable. What is more, the conditions of service were severely imposed on them which they did not like.



Question 8. What was the impact of the Mongol invasions on the Delhi Sultanate?

Answer: The Delhi Sultanate mobilized a large standing army in Delhi. It posed a big **ADMINISTRATIVE** challenge.



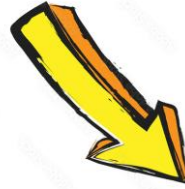
1. ALLAUDIN KHILJI

- constructed a new garrison town at Siri for his soldiers. He imposed taxes on land to feed the army at the rate of **50 PERCENT** of peasant's yield. He began to pay the soldiers in cash.



2. MUHAMMAD TUGHLUQ

- shifted people of Delhi to Daulat Abad in south and thus converted Delhi into a garrison town. He also disbanded the army. He also paid the soldiers in cash.



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Question 9. Do you think the authors of **tawarikh** would provide information about the lives of ordinary men and women?

Answer: I don't think like that. It is because the authors of **tawarikh** lived in cities mainly **Delhi**. They were not in touch of village people.



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They often wrote their histories for Sultans in the hope of **rich rewards**. They had nothing to do with common mass. Hence, it was obvious that the information provided by them would lack **ordinary men and women**.

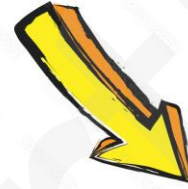


Question 10. Raziyya Sultan was unique in the history of the Delhi Sultanate. Do you think women leaders are accepted more readily today?

Answer: Yes, I think like that. The situation has changed today. Due to the **SPREAD OF EDUCATION** people now realize the potential of women. So, they have started accepting them as leaders. Even in rural areas now we see women as **SARPANCHES AND COUNCILORS.**

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REAL IMAGE

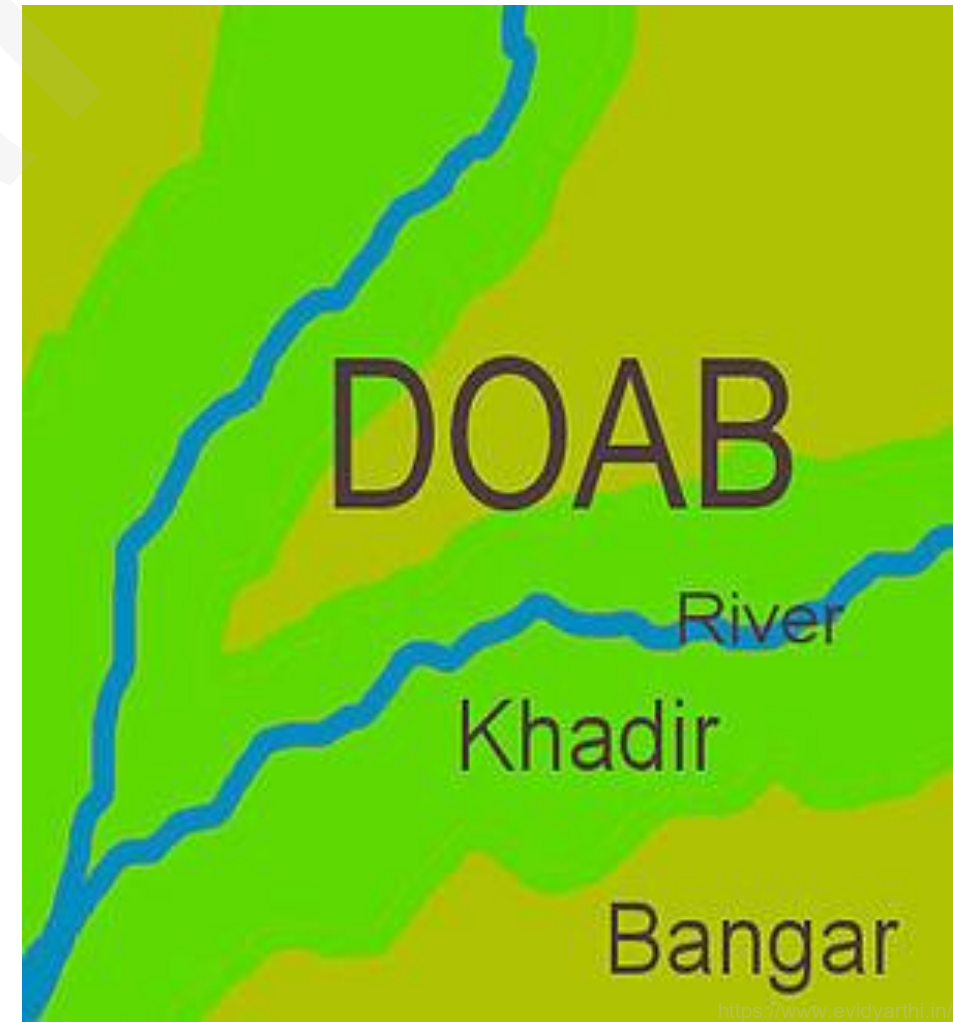


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Question 11. Why were the Delhi Sultans interested in cutting down forests? Does deforestation occur for the same reasons today?

Answer: The Delhi Sultans cleared the forests in the **GANGA-YAMUNA DOAB** and gave these lands to peasants in order to encourage agriculture.



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➤ They also established **new fortresses and towns** in these lands to protect trade routes and to **promote regional trade.**

No, **deforestation** does not occur for the same reasons today. Nowadays, vegetation cover is being reduced due to **over-population, urbanization and**

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