

Name: Atul Kumar
Bansal

Email ID: atul.bansal01@gmail.com

Mobile No. [REDACTED]

Marks:

ANSWER SHEET

TEST- IV (MEDIEVAL INDIA)

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Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS

Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.

Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, THREE are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each Section.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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SECTION A

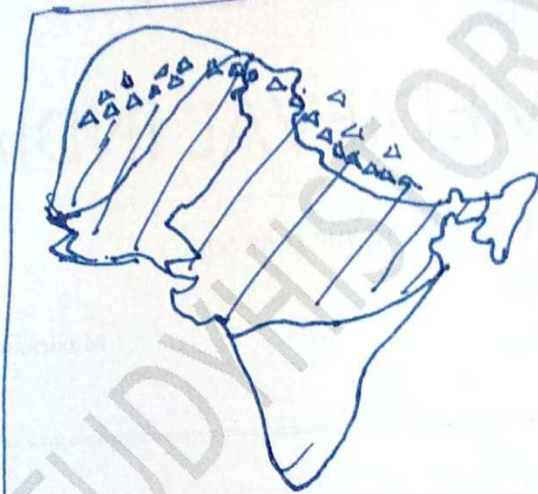
Q.1 Answer the following in about 150 words each: 10x5=50

Q.1 (a) On the basis of Abul Fazl's Akbarnama, analyse the Kingship Theory of Akbar. [10 Marks]

Akbar ruled over Mughal Empire from 1558-1605.
His theory of kingship is propounded in Abul Fazl's
Akbarnama.

Theory of kingship

Akbar's theory of kingship was based on the idea of semi-divine monarchy.



Akbar's Empire

He adopted the title of Zil-i-Ilahi (Shadow of God on Earth). The heart of emperor is the repository of special knowledge given by God. This was called farr-i-izadi by Abul Fazl. This divine light

enables emperor to distinguish between right and wrong.

His inclusive outlook of 'Sulh-i-kul' or universal peace is also explained by Abul Fazl.

Akbar believed in complete subjugation of nobility to crown. ~~The~~ Succession was limited to Mughal dynasty.

Akbar's theory of kingship consisted of secularism and welfare outlook towards subjects. Imperialism was also an important

element. There was administrative centralization

and high level of institutionalization seen in

Mansabdar System

This enabled him to rule effectively for five decades.

Q.1 (b) Give an account of the Malwa style of architecture in medieval India. [10 Marks]

The architectural knowledge brought by Turks and Mughals led to the development of Indo-Islamic architecture in India. There were many provincial styles. Malwa style of architecture was very prominent among them.

The monuments at Malwa consist of Jama Masjid, Jahaz Mahal, Hoshang Shah's tomb, Hindola Mahal etc.

Malwa style of architecture was influenced by Pathan architecture. ~~Elements~~ It was characterized by heavy use

of granite. Monuments were grand.

Highly developed civil engineering can be

seen in the monuments. For example-

batter has been used in Humayun's Tomb

to give the effect of swinging walls.

The Malwa style of architecture

was a prominent provincial style and it

influenced other provincial styles as well

the Mughal monuments.

Q.1 (c) Critically analyse Burton Stein's description of the society of early medieval South India as a 'peasant society'. [10 Marks]

Burton Stein has characterized the early medieval south Indian society as a peasant society. Vellalas or the peasants were a powerful group. The Brahmana peasant alliance at local level was very influential. Vr and Nagarams were ~~market~~ ^{urban} settlements which were having large scale autonomy. He also refers to Utharamerur Inscription and the local bodies of the Cholas to emphasize that it was a peasant society.

Closer examination of the facts however, reveal a different reality. While peasants were powerful at local level, there were other powerful groups such as merchants, artisans, brahmins etc.

The merchants and artisans formed Idangai and Valangai groups and they were represented in royal courts. Even though local bodies enjoyed vast powers, a powerful central officer, 'Adhikeri', was appointed at local level.

Thus, Burton Stein's comments about South Indian society do not represent reality.

Q.1 (d) Analyse the educational development during Delhi Sultanate period. [10 Marks]

Delhi Sultanate flourished from 1206 to 1526. As the literary and archaeological sources such as Tabaqat-i-Nasiri, Tarikh-i-Ferozshahi, Rihla, etc., education development during this period can be understood.

The rulers of Delhi Sultanate focussed only on education of Muslims. Education of Hindus was ignored.

According to Tabaqat-i-Nasiri, Iltutmish established Madrasa called Masina college. Balban too established an educational centre by same name.

Ferozshah Tughluq took steps for education of Muslims. Land & grants were given educational institutions. Many madresses and Makhtabs were established.

The education during Delhi Sultanate period was characterized by saturation with religious ideas. The purpose was to prepare the person for next world. Teacher - student ratio was high and monitor system was followed in education.

The education of Hindus continued in gurukul system and by craft and caste organizations.

Q.1 (e) How Royal land Charters of medieval India can be used as a source of history? [10 Marks]

The Royal Land charters of medieval India provide important information about political, social and economic of the age.

Politically, the land charters help in knowing about the dynasties and rulers. Land charters contain the names of issuing rulers. They also tell about the extent of territory of the empire. Land charters also throw light on the political system. For example, land charters issued ~~for~~ to religious and educational institutions show welfare outlook.

Socially, the knowledge of various feudal groups and feudal- peasant relationship can be understood from land charters. Land grants also help in knowing the religious history.

Land charters help in understanding the land revenue system. One-third of produce was normal state demand of revenue. Productivity of land and various agricultural operations can be understood from land charters.

In this way, land charters were an important source of history in medieval India.

Q.2 (a) Assess the development of Science and Technology in the Mughal India. [20 Marks]

Mughal Empire witnessed all round progress in political, social and economic life including developments in science and technology.

The developments in Science and Technology were a result of political stability, administrative unification, scientific outlook of rulers as well as contacts with ~~western~~ other parts of world.

The Developments in Science and Technology

- The science of metal plating ~~has~~ began.
- According to Abul Fazl, the utensils in

Royal kitchens were plated once in 15 days

- Screw was invented. It led to developments in shipbuilding industry
- Gear mechanism was invented. It was helpful for oil and sugar mills and irrigation facilities. Gear mechanism was fitted with sagya (Persian wheel) to develop Rahet
- ~~Breakable~~ Breakable artillery was invented which allowed gun to be carried to hilltops. This helped in conquering Rajputana.
- Progress in Civil engineering - New methods of air circulation and cooling were invented

However, there were certain

limitations to this. The developments were
few and far between as compared to
what was happening in other countries like
European countries. There was no
comprehensive development of scientific outlook
and education was saturated with
religious ideas. There were no progress in
naval sciences.

As a result of this, when European
trading companies came to India during
17th and 18th centuries, they could easily
defeat Indian rulers with superior
technology.

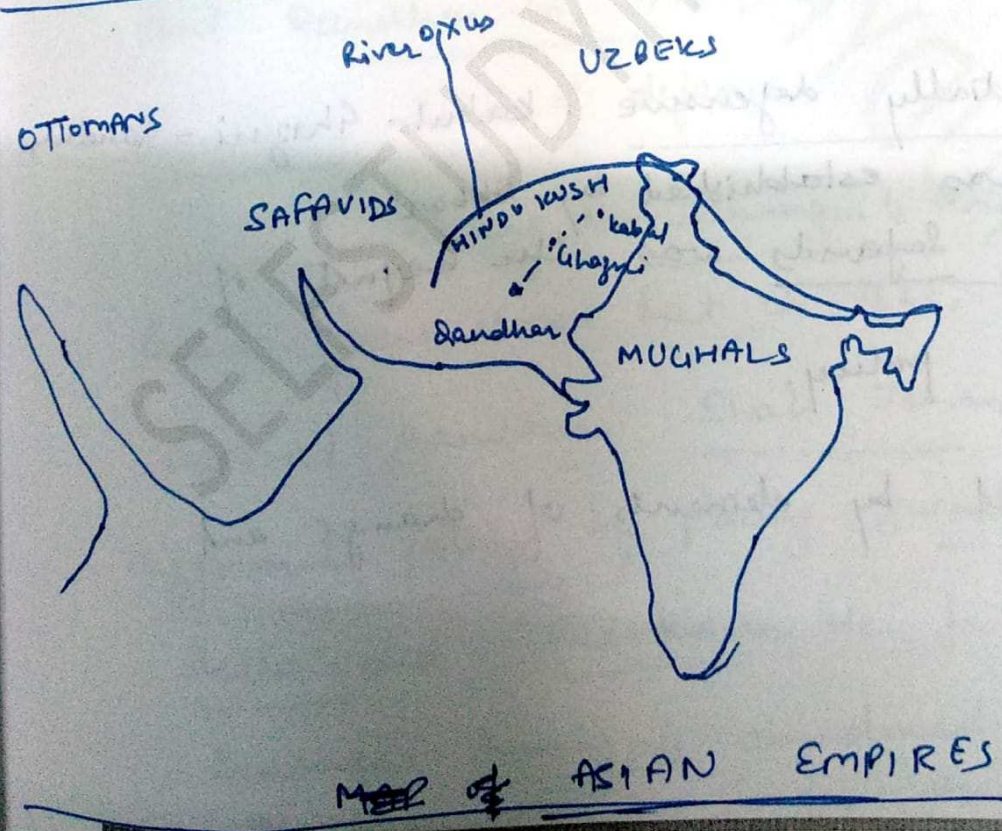
Q.2 (b) What were the major considerations and features of Mughal's foreign policy in Northwest?
How this policy formed under different Mughal rulers. [20 Marks]

Mughal foreign policy was guided by practicality and domestic interests. At that time,

four major empires were ruling in Asia -

Ottomans, Safavids, Uzbeks and Mughals.

Except Safavids of Persia, all major powers were Sunnis.



Major Considerations and features

- Mughal foreign policy was secular. It was guided by ~~not~~ domestic interests. When Abdullah Uzbek proposed a tripartite alliance against Shah Safavids, Akbar refused.
- It was centred on preserving balance of power in Asia.
- It was essentially defensive. Kabul-Ghazni-Randhwa line of axis was established by Akbar.
- friendship with Safavids was the keynote of Mughal foreign policy.
- It was marked by elements of change and continuity.

Mughal foreign policy under various rulers

Babur was ousted by Uzbeks. He was helped by Safavids but he did not have any foreign policy as such. Humayun was help by Safavid ruler Shah Tamasp when he was defeated by Sher Shah Suri in battle of Kannauj 1540.

Akbar sent embassies to Persia to establish close relations. He captured Kabul in 1585 and Randhar in 1596, establishing Kabul-Ghazni Randhar line of defence.

During ~~the~~ Jahangir's time, relations with Persia grew closer but in 1622, Persian rulers captured Randhar. Shah Jahan adopted more aggressive policy by placing friendly ruler in Balkh and Badakshan. He failed to take back Randhar. Aurangzeb abandoned quest for Randhar as it was no longer strategically important.

Q.2 (c) Give the description of Vijayanagara city in the light of the account of foreign travellers. [10 Marks]

Vijayanagar Empire was founded by Harhara and Bukka in 1336. Deva Raya III and Krishna Deva Raya were its greatest rulers. The ~~to~~ accounts of foreign travellers such as Barbosa, Nicolo Coni, Abdur Razzaq, Ferishta help in understanding about the Vijayanagar City.

Vijayanagar City or the City of Hampi was very prosperous and rich. It was situated on the banks of Tungabhadra river. The ~~river~~ waters of Tungabhadra were supplied to citizens of

Hampi had a well developed irrigation mechanism.

The rulers of Vijayanagara were secular.
Although they patronized Vaishnavism and there were many temples in city of Hampi, there was also a mosque there.

The people of Hampi were so rich that even gold and silver was sold on streets. Foreign traveller Ferishta comments that he had not seen this kind of wealth anywhere in the world.

The city of Hampi was plundered after the defeat of Vijayanagara empire in battle of Talikota 1565 and the city lost its former prosperity.

Q.3 (a) "The Sultanate policy for tackling Mongol menace had elements of aloofness, appeasement and resistance." Elucidate. [20 Marks]

Mongols emerged as a strong force under Ghenghis Khan. At times, they also tried to raid the Indian subcontinent. But Sultans of Delhi successfully tackled Mongols. Sultanate policy for Mongols had elements of aloofness, appeasement and resistance.

Elements of aloofness can be

seen in the fact that Sultan of Delhi ~~were neither~~ neither allied with Mongols nor against them. When Khwarezminian ruler Jalal-ud-din Mang Barani came to Sultan Iltutmish, he refused to help him.

Using his diplomacy, he successfully averted a possible mongol invasion of India.

Element of appeasement can be

seen from the fact ~~that~~ that when powerful mongol commanders like Halaqu were eyeing Indian wealth, Balban successfully ~~red~~ made them generous offers and kept them away from India.

Element of resistance was also

present in response of Delhi Sultans. Balban built forts in Lahore, Multan and Samana

Powerful mongol forces were defeated by him in 1279 and 1285. Sultan Jalaluddin Khilji

defeated mongol attack in 1292. ~~Alauddin~~ Alauddin
Khilji repeatedly defeated mongols and
safeguarded his empire.

Using elements of aloofness,
appeasement and resistance, Delhi Sultans
were able to safeguard Indian empire.

~~But~~ The mongol invasions led to
huge loss of men and material. As a
result of mongol threat, Sultans of Delhi
could not focus entirely on internal
expansion. The invasion of Timur in 1398
broke defenses of Sultanate and he sacked
and plundered Delhi.

Q.3 (b) Discuss the Empire-centric approach, which identify the causes of the decline within the structure and functioning of the Empire, for explaining the Mughal decline. [20 Marks]

Mughal Empire first established by Babur in 1526 and later by Humayun in 1555 flourished for more than 150 years successfully. However, by the end of 17th century, elements of stress and strain began to appear and Mughal empire declined in power and prestige by middle of 18th century.

The causes of decline lay in structure and functioning of empire.

Structure of Empire

- The Mughal Empire was a police state and a military state. It was ~~won~~ won by force

established by force. As soon as ~~any~~ military power declined, so did the empire.

- The empire was a monarchy. When weak rulers sat on throne after Aurangzeb, they could not steer the empire successfully.
- Centralization of administration was another structural problem. Rulers like Mohammad Shah Rangila did not pay attention and ~~any~~ administration collapsed.
- It was a muslim empire, while majority of population was Hindu. Mughal Empire failed to effect a fusion of Hindus and Muslims.

functioning of Empire

There was no fixed law of succession. ~~Death~~ Death of a ruler led to battles of succession.

and a civil war like situation. Different nobility factions started supporting their favourites on the throne. Survival of the weakest became the norm in battlefield.

Nobility became kingmakers. Various factions emerged in form of Turani, Irani, Afghani and Hindustani nobles. Power rulers like Shujah-ud-daula, Alivardi Khan carved out semi-autonomous states. This hastened the process of decline.

Other than this, role of Marathas and foreign invasions was also significant. Baji Rao I invaded Delhi in 1737. Nadir Shah of Persia invaded Delhi in 1739 after battle of Karnal. This also exposed the hollowness of empire and paved way for its decline.

Q.3 (c) Delineate the debate related to the origin of Rajputs. [10 Marks]

Rajputs are known for their chivalry and high code of honour. The age from 8th century to 12th century is known as the age of Rajputs in India. However, the origin of Rajputs is debated ~~and~~ widely.

Colonial historians emphasized that Rajputs were Hunas who got settled in India. They adopted Indian culture and got sanskritized. They claimed descendance ~~to~~ ^{from} sun (Suryavanshi) or moon (Chandravanshi).

Some historians say that Rajputs are people of low origin. They were shudras or tribal chiefs who captured

power and adopted kshatriya status through Brahmanical rituals. Gurjara-Pratiharas, for example, traced descent from Lakshmana, the legendary hero of Ramayana.

According to Burton Stein, Rajputs were feudal lords who acquired power due to weakening of central authority in Early medieval Age.

Thus, we can see that there are wide ranging debates on the origins of Rajputs.

SECTION B

Q.5 Answer the following in about 150 words each: $10 \times 5 = 50$

Q.5 (a) Trace the changes in composition of nobility under successive Mughal Emperors [10 Marks]

Nobility was an important component of Mughal Empire's structure. Under Mansabdari system, each noble was given a mansab rank and important ~~civil~~ civil and military responsibilities. The composition of nobility ~~is~~ changed under different rulers.

~~When Babur defeated Ibrahim~~
~~Lodi in 1526,~~ ~~his~~
When Babur came to India, his nobility consisted of Turks. Gradually many Afghans joined him after his victory in battle of Panipat (1526) and

battle of Ghaghra (1529). This Turco-Afghan nobility changed under Humayun's reign.

After ~~that~~ Due to close relations with Safavids, many Iranian nobles joined him.

Under Akbar, Rajputs ~~and~~ and Indian Muslims were included in nobility and a heterogeneous nobility emerged. During

Shah Jahan's reign, ~~Iranian~~ Iranian and Turani nobles increased in influence as he was proud of his Central Asian connections.

Under Aurangzeb, many ~~Rajputs~~ Rajputs left Mughal Empire. ~~Aurangzeb~~ Aurangzeb also appointed a large number of mansabders from Deccan.

Thus, the composition of nobility underwent many changes

Q.5 (b) Delineate the Odisha temple architecture of early medieval India. [10 Marks]

Odisha shows evolved temple architecture.

The temple architecture is a sub-variant of Nagara style of architecture

Important differences with Nagara style

- The shikhara is cylindrical and not ~~tem~~ pyramidical. It is called deul.
- The mandapa is large and is called Jagamohana

The deities are placed in

'Garbagriha' or sanctum-sanctorum.

It is guarded by images of river goddesses ~~are~~ like Ganga and Yamuna.

The deul is constructed over Garbapsiha.

Jagamohana is constructed for gathering of devotees. ~~Jagato~~ Jagamohana is connected with Garbapsiha through a colonnaded Hall.

The temple architecture was seen in most developed form in Sun temple of Konark, Jagannath Puri temple and Shiva temple of Bhubaneswar.

Q.5 (c) Do you agree with the view that villages during Mughal periods were 'little republics'?
Critically discuss. [10 Marks]

'little republics' imply + large autonomy and self governance and no interference of central administration in day to day matters. Some historians believe that villages in Mughal period exhibited this characteristic.

Villages had their own administration.

They were ruled by village panchayats.

Every village maintained its own teacher.

There was no interference of central administration as long as revenue was being paid on time.

Critical Examination

This view does not represent

reality. According to Abul fazl, the empire was divided into Subas (Provinces) and each Suba was divided into Serkar and Parganas.

One Pargana consisted of few villages.

Abul fazl mentions there was well developed administrative machinery at

Pargana level with Shiqdar as its head.

Amil was responsible for revenue collection.

State took steps for development of agriculture at village level. Loans were provided during emergency times. State aid was provided for ~~the~~ buying implements and tools.

Thus, the above statement cannot be accepted -

Q.5 (d) Briefly identify the contours of Mughal's Deccan policy under different rulers. [10 Marks]

Mughal's Deccan policy was guided by imperialistic outlook of rulers as well as needs of empire. Safety of rule in Gujarat, needs of controlling western ports and the wealth of ~~South~~ Deccan led Mughals to expand in Peninsular India.

Babur, did not have any Deccan policy but he was aware of conditions prevailing in Deccan. He mentions in Tuzuk-i-Baburi that "there are 5 Muslim states and 1 Hindu state in Peninsular India and the Hindu Ruler is most powerful".

Humayun ~~did~~ defeated the ruler of Gujarat who was supported by ruler of Khandesh. He was forgiven by Humayun.

Akbar, after conquering Sindh in 1519, turned attention towards Deccan. He annexed Khandesh and brought Ahmadnagar under control after suppressing revolt of Chand Biri.

Jahangir successfully suppressed the rebellion led by Malik Amber, Prime Minister of Ahmadnagar.

Shah Jahan adopted calculated aggressive policy. He annexed Ahmadnagar and subjugated Bijapur and Golconda in 1636.

Aurangzeb annexed Bijapur and Golconda and captured Maratha leader in 1689. However,

he failed to tackle Maratha rebellion which also led to decline of Mughal Empire.

The Mughal ~~foreign~~ policy in Deccan was quite successful but overstretching the empire during Aurangzeb's reign led to its downfall.

Q.5 (e) Discuss the various aspects of agricultural operations in early medieval India with the help of Krishi-Prashara. [10 Marks]

Krishi-Prashara gives detailed account of agricultural operations in early medieval India.

According to Krishi-Prashara, agriculture was mainly subsistence in India although surplus production was also seen. Land revenue on surplus production was main source of state income. One-third of produce was collected as land revenue.

For estimating land revenue, crop-sharing method was used. Ras-Batai or sharing of gains was most common.

Irrigation facilities were used.

canal irrigation, tubewell irrigation and tank irrigation were different methods. Asaghatta or Ghatyantra was used to extract water from wells.

There were more than 50 varieties of rice grown in India. Brahmanas had advanced knowledge of seasons and this was used in extension of agriculture.

Foodgrain cultivation was main activity in agriculture.

In this way, we can see that Krishni-Prashna gives a detailed understanding of agricultural operations in India.

Q.7 (a) Discuss the changing nature of the political system of Maratha with time in medieval India.
[20 Marks]

Marathas emerged as a formidable power under Shivaji. He established the Maratha Empire in 1674. The political system of Marathas underwent change over time.

Under Shivaji and Sambhaji, a strong centralized monarchy was established. Shivaji adopted the idea of semi-divine monarchy and adopted high sounding titles like Chhatrapati.

The political system was centralized although the elements of decentralization were also present. In peripheral areas, deshmukhs ruled as semi-autonomous rulers.

feudal lords.

~~The~~ High level of institutionalization can be seen in institutions like Astapradhan. The

state system was secular. Shivaji inducted both Hindus and Muslims in army. His naval chief was a Pathan.

~~The~~ welfare outlook was present. State system was characterized by strong imperialism.

During Shahji's reign, Peshwa

Balaji Vishwanath concentrated power in the office of Peshwa. Under his successor, Baji Rao I

Peshwa emerged as de-facto ruler. His reign was characterized by strong imperialism and

subjugation of other states like Bundelkhand, Bengal and Hyderabad.

Rise of Peshwas of Pune was followed
by rise of ~~other~~ Maratha Commanders
like Holkars of Indore, Gaekwads of Baroda,
Sardis of Gwalior, Bhonsle of Nagpur and
Pawar of Dhar. Maratha ~~empire~~ empire
became a confederacy.

After defeat in Third Battle of Panipat
in 1761, central power declined and
Maratha commanders emerged as semi-
autonomous rulers.

The changes in political system was
an important reason for the decline of
Maratha Empire.

Q.7 (b) Describe the features and significance of the Iqta system. What changes were brought in iqta system by different Delhi sultans. [20 Marks]

Iqta system was an Arabic institution adopted by Turks who brought it into India. Under Iqta system, the empire was divided into Iqtas and placed under the charge of an Iqtadar. ~~who was~~

Features of Iqta system

- It was based on merit. Most meritorious commanders were made Iqtadars.
- Iqtadars were frequently transferred by Sultan.
- They were expected to collect revenue from their and ~~carry out~~ ^{maintain} administration of their Iqta.

- Law of escheat was an essential feature.
After death of Iqtadar, all his property was taken over by state.
- Iqtas were non-hereditary.

Significance

- It encouraged merit. It was progressive as it rewarded meritorious performance.
- It helped in maintaining central control over far off territories.
- It helped in checking revolts and rebellions as powerful Iqtadars could be transferred away from capital.
- It helped in expansion of territory as Iqtadars were expected to expand ~~by~~ by

winning over adjoining territories.

- This institution was also responsible for downfall of Delhi Sultanate as Iqtadars of Absarhin Lodi conspired with Babur against the Sultan.

Changes by different rulers

- Mohammad Ghauri introduced the system in India
- Iltutmish defined duties and responsibilities of Iqtadars.
- Balban established strong central control by frequently transferring Iqtadars.
- Alauddin increased central control. He established Diwan-i-Mustakharay to collect arrears from Iqtadars.
- Mohammad Bin Tughluq abolished fawazil. Iqtadars were to deposit entire revenue and paid for by state treasury.
- Feroz Shah Tughluq made Iqtas hereditary.
- Under Lodhis, Iqtadars were not transferred.

Q.7 (c) Did medieval town lack corporate or civic character? Discuss. [10 Marks]

With the arrival of ~~Indians~~^{Turks} in India, third urbanization was witnessed. Many towns and cities ~~were~~ emerged such as Lahore, Delhi, Agra, Bhatinda, Ajmer, Jampur etc.

Some towns were established for administrative or military purposes while some towns were established for economic and religious purposes.

But the ~~towns~~ towns of Medieval India lacked civic or corporate character. They did not have any civic institutions like Municipality. People in cities lead

an evolved life characterized by refinement and formal means of entertainment.

But medieval Indian towns lacked these characteristics. They were merely extension of villages characterized by high population base and population density.

Many of the towns developed around forts to serve the needs of the army. Some towns developed as exchange points on trade routes. But the towns of medieval India lacked corporate or *ciri* character.