

# **DAILY CLASS NOTES**

## **Medieval History**

**Lecture - 13**

**Regional Kingdoms  
(Part - 02)**



## Regional Kingdoms (Part - 02)

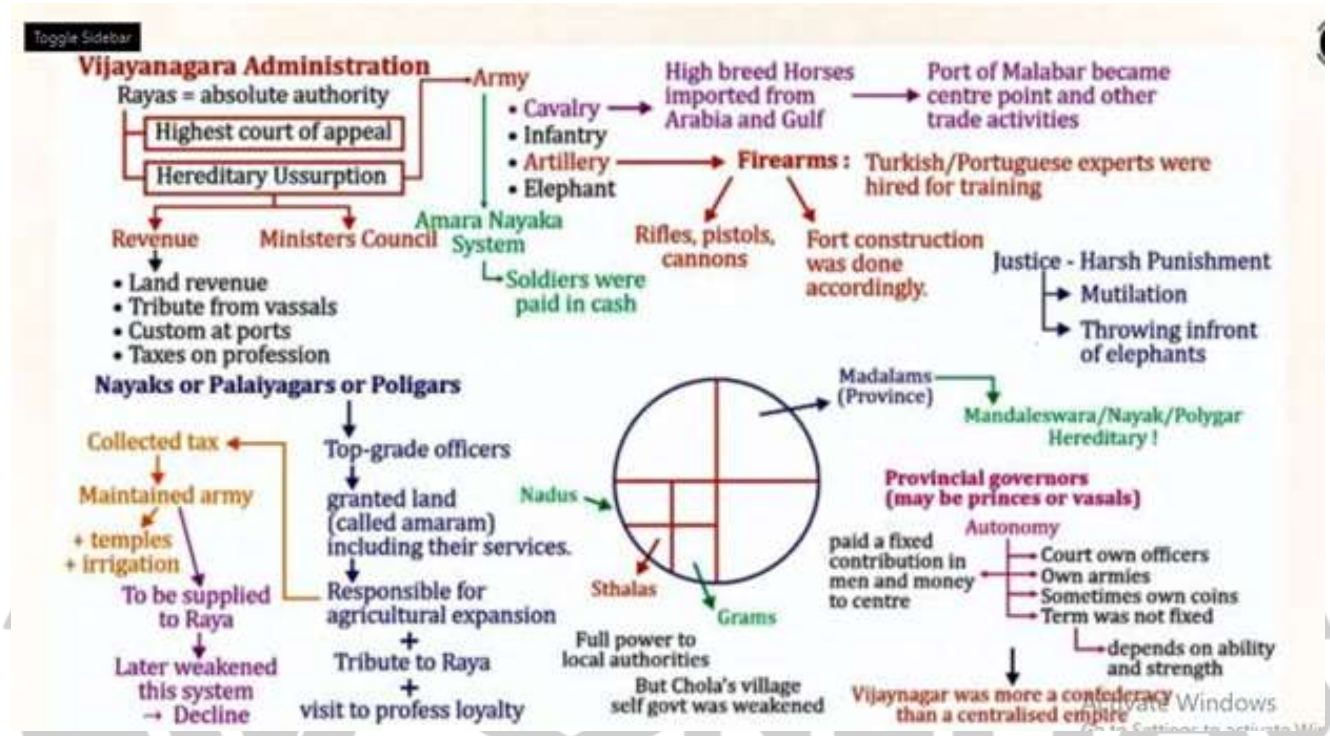
### Administration during Vijayanagar Empire:

- ❖ The administration under the Vijayanagar Empire was well organized.
- ❖ The king enjoyed **absolute authority in executive, judicial and legislative matters**.
- ❖ King is also called as **Rayas**. They strictly **adhere to Dharma** and are hugely influenced by Dharmashastra.
- ❖ Militarization of society was very much in that time, so kings were getting titles **Digvijayan**.
- ❖ He was also head of the society and head of **Mahanavami festival (9 days festival)**.
- ❖ Military department was called **Kandachara** and its head was **Dandanayak**.
- ❖ It consisted of the cavalry, infantry, artillery and elephants. High-breed horses were procured from foreign traders.
  - Artillery sources for this kingdom were imported from **Turkish and Portuguese**.
- ❖ **Rifles, Canyons and Pistons** were used in these kingdoms.
- ❖ Port construction was modified as per to keep the canyons in the ports.
- ❖ Hybrid horses were used for cavalry; those were hired from Arabia, Persia and Turkey.
- ❖ The **top-grade officers** of the army were known as **Nayaks or Poligars**.
- ❖ Most of the **military officers** were muslims and they were leading strategically important posts.
- ❖ He was the highest court of appeal. The succession to the throne was on the principle of hereditary status.
- ❖ **Land revenue** called as Sista was fixed generally **one sixth** of the produce.
- ❖ Besides land revenue, tributes and gifts from vassals and feudal chiefs, customs collected at the ports, tolls, taxes on various professions were other sources of income to the government.
- ❖ Polity was impacted by the military and religion.
- ❖ In the matter of justice, harsh punishments such as mutilation and throwing to elephants were followed.

### Provincial Administration:

- ❖ The Empire was divided into different administrative units called **Mandalams, Venthe (Subdivided into Nadus), Sthalas** and finally into **grams (Ur, Sabha, Nattar)**.
  - Mandalams head was Mandleshwar (Nayak, Polygar or Palaiyagar).
- ❖ The governor of Mandalam was called **Mandaleswara or Nayak**, called AmarNayak System.
- ❖ Term is not fixed for the Nayakas but a fixed quota to the centre.
- ❖ Nayakas can do agriculture expansion, can take care of law and order, can collect taxes, revenue and take care of temples and irrigation..
- ❖ Vijayanagar rulers gave full powers and autonomy to the local authorities in the administration.
- ❖ How to **control** Nayakas by the centre?

- By monopolizing the coastal market, for example- Horses trade was under the control of the centre.
- **Garrisoned army**(trustworthy leaders like Niyogi Brahmins) other than Nayakas were given a fort (Fort heads were called **Durga Dainik**) that could be used for wars. They had Bhandar vada land for their salary.



**Lands are divided into:**

- ❖ **Bhandar vada**- It was basically a crown village. King has all the power on this village land.
- ❖ **Amarama** - It comes under Nayakas, 3/4th of the whole kingdom comes under nayakas.
  - Out of this Nayakayas only get 1/6th share of this as the salary, it was called **Amaramakani**.
- ❖ **Manya**- This land was tax free land.

**Ayagar System:**

- ❖ Village functionaries were handled by village headmen (Reddi, Gowda, Maniyam), Accountant (Karnam Senabhora), Irrigation channel (Nirranikar) and Watchman (Tiayari).
- ❖ They were allotted a plot in the village as a salary, this land was tax free land (Manya land).

**Vijayanagara Society:**

- ❖ Allasani Peddanna, in his Manucharitam, refers to the existence of four castes viz, **Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas, and Sudras** (BKVS) in the Vijayanagar society.
- ❖ **Silk and cotton clothes** were common and used mainly for dress.
- ❖ Some of the popular kinds of amusement included dancing, singing, wrestling, gambling, and cockfighting.

- ❖ Foreign travelers left vivid accounts on the splendor of buildings and luxurious social life.
- ❖ Paes makes reference to the beautiful houses of the rich and the large number of their household servants.
- ❖ **Nicolo Conti** refers to the prevalence of slavery.
- ❖ **Role of Brahmins:**
  - Lot of privilege was given to Brahmins in temples but Niyogi Brahmins were not sacred Brahmins.
  - Niyogi Brahmins were orthodox and secular Brahmins.
- ❖ Territorial segmentation was like no interaction between different parts in the kingdoms.
- ❖ There were dual division of lower caste
  - **Left hand caste**- They were involved in non agriculture and trade related work and they followed **Shaivism**.
  - **Right hand caste**- They were involved in Agriculture and peasants works and they followed **Vaishnavism**.
  - ✓ Peasants were the base of the social order and has been considered as pure Shudra.

#### Religion:

- ❖ Kings were initially **Shaivites** and Virupaksha(Vaishnavite) was their family deity.
- ❖ Ramanuja's ShriVaishnavism was popular.
- ❖ Tolerant towards other religions.
- ❖ **As per Barbosa:**
  - There was **religious freedom** for everyone Christian, Jew, Moor, heathen.
  - Muslims were employed in army mosques.
  - Deva Ray II allotted them Jagirs.
  - Temple buildings were rich and participated in trade.

#### Position of Women:

- ❖ The position was not much improved.
- ❖ Some were learned such as **Gangadevi, wife of Kumara Kampana** and she authored **Madura Vijayam**.
- ❖ According to **Ferano Nuniz:**
- ❖ Women were employed as dancers, domestic servants
  - Palanquin bearers
  - Astrologer, soothsayer
  - Wrestler

- ❖ **Shahgaman (Sati)** was honored
- ❖ The practice of **Devdasi** was prevalent.
- ❖ Paes referred to the polygamy prevalent among royal families.

### Economy:

- ❖ Chief occupation was **agriculture**.
- ❖ The land revenue was based on the **productivity and location of the land**.
- ❖ Land revenue was collected in the form of cash or in the form of crops.
- ❖ Brahmins and temples can give very less percentage of land revenue of 1/20th and 1/30th of revenue respectively as tax.
- ❖ The Vijayanagar rulers encouraged further growth by providing **irrigation facilities**.
- ❖ States got some income from providing irrigation facilities, such as **Dasavanda**(In Andhra Pradesh) and **Kottukoduge** (In Karnataka).
- ❖ **New tanks were built and dams** were constructed across the rivers like Tungabhadra. Nuniz refers to the excavation of canals.
- ❖ There were numerous industries and they were organized into **guilds**.
  - Heads of guilds were called as **Pattanaswami**.
- ❖ During this time, metal workers and other artisans saw great success.
- ❖ There were **diamond mines** in the Kurnool and Anantapur districts.
- ❖ The chief **gold coin** was the **varaha** but weights and measures varied from place to place.
- ❖ Inland, coastal, and overseas trade led to general prosperity.
- ❖ **Import items were:** Horses(Arabia, Central Asia, Africa), Pearls(Persian gulf and China), Copper-corals, Coral, Mercury, China silk, Velvet(Arabia), etc.
- ❖ Also India imports Damask, Brocade and Satin from China.
- ❖ **Export items were:** Cotton, Silk, Spices (Black Pepper), Rice, Iron, Salt paper, Sugar, etc.
- ❖ Various sea ports such as **Malabar, Cannanore (Chief port), Chaul, Dabhol, Goa, Mangalore and Calicut etc.**
- ❖ Vijayanagar had more than 300 ports in its kingdom.
- ❖ The Vijayanagar empire had relations with Arabia, Persia, South Africa, Portugal, Burma, Malay Peninsula, China, etc.
- ❖ Horse trade was always done by muslim merchants. These muslims got **bodyguards**(Nayar) from the kingdom and dedicated **accountants** (Chettis).

- ❖ Later on, the Portuguese came to India and landed in Goa.
- ❖ **Kayal** has pearl fisheries and the centre has monopolized this pearl fishery.

### Vijayanagar Art and Architecture:

- ❖ Vijayanagar era architecture can be broadly classified into **religious, courtly, and civic architecture**.
- ❖ Its style is a **harmonious combination** of the Chalukya, Hoysala, Pandya, and Chola styles that evolved in earlier centuries and represents a return to the simplicity and serenity of the past.
- ❖ Preferred for its durability, local hard granite was the building material of choice, as it had been for the Badami Chalukyas; however, soapstone, which was soft and easily carved, was also used for reliefs and sculptures.

### Temple Architecture:

- ❖ Vijayanagar temples are surrounded by strong enclosures and characterized by ornate pillared **kalyana mandapam** (marriage halls) **tall Raya Gopurams** (carved monumental towers at the entrance of the temple) built of wood, brick, and stucco in the Chola style; and adorned with life-sized figures of gods and goddesses.
- ❖ This **Dravida Style** became popular during the reign of **Krishnadevaraya** and is seen in South Indian temples constructed over the next two centuries.
- ❖ Vijayanagar temples are also known for their **carved pillars**, which depict charging horses, figures from Hindu mythology, and yali (hippogriffs).
- ❖ Some of the larger temples are dedicated to a male deity, with a separate shrine intended for the worship of his female counterpart.
- ❖ Some famous temples exemplifying the Vijayanagar style include the Virupaksha Temple at Hampi and the **Hazara Rama temple of Deva Raya I**.



Virupaksha temple at Hampi



Hazara Rama temple at Hampi

### Palaces and Courtly Architecture:

- ❖ **No royal palace structures from the Vijayanagara period have survived intact**, and most of what is known about them has been drawn from archaeological excavations at Hampi.
- ❖ Most of the palaces faced **east or north** and stood within compounds surrounded by high, tapering stone and earth walls.

- ❖ They were built on **raised granite platforms** with multiple tiers of moldings decorated with carved friezes.
- ❖ Palaces usually spanned multiple levels and had tall flights of stairs flanked on either side by balustrades carved with yali and elephants.
- ❖ Pillars and beams were made of **wood** and the **roofs of brick and lime concrete**.
- ❖ The courtly architecture of **Vijayanagar** was generally made of mortar mixed with stone rubble and often shows **secular styles** with Islamic-influenced arches, domes, and vaults.

### Sculpture in the Vijayanagar Empire:

- ❖ Vijayanagar sculpture can most commonly be seen in the **reliefs, pillars, and monolithic statues of temples**.
- ❖ The Vijayanagara Empire's patronage enabled its fine arts and literature to rise to new heights.
- ❖ Its legacy of sculpture, painting, and architecture influenced the development of the arts in South India long after the empire came to an end.
- ❖ The mingling of South Indian styles resulted in a richness not seen in earlier centuries, including a focus on reliefs in addition to sculpture that surpassed that seen previously in India.

#### ❖ Sculpture Material:

- Preferred for its **durability, local hard granite** was the building material of choice for architecture; however, **soapstone**, which was soft and easily carved, was commonly used for reliefs and sculptures.
  - While the use of granite reduced the density of sculptured works, granite was a more durable material for the temple structure.
  - Because granite is prone to flaking, few pieces of individual sculptures reached the high levels of quality seen in previous centuries.
  - In order to cover the unevenness of the stone used in sculptures, artists employed **brightly painted plaster** to smooth over and finish rough surfaces.
- ❖ Sculpture was integrally linked with architecture in the creation of Vijayanagar temples.
  - ❖ Large life-size figures of men, women, gods, and goddesses adorn the gopuram of many Vijayanagara temples.
  - ❖ Temple pillars often have **engravings** of charging horses or hippogryphs (yali)—horses standing on hind legs with their forelegs lifted and riders on their backs.
  - ❖ The horses on some pillars stand seven to eight feet tall.
  - ❖ On the other side of the pillar are often carvings from **Hindu mythology**.



- ❖ Another element of the Vijayanagar style is the carving and consecration of large **monolithic statues**, such as:
  - The Sasivekalu Ganesha and Kadalekalu Ganesha at Hampi;
  - The Gommateshvara (Bahubali) monoliths in Karkala and Venur;
  - The Nandi bull in Lepakshi
- ❖ Examples of this style can also be seen in the Vijayanagara temples of Kolar, Kanakagiri, Shringeri and other towns of Karnataka; the temples of Tadpatri, Lepakshi, Ahobilam, Tirumala Venkateswara, and Srikalahasti in Andhra Pradesh; and the temples of Vellore, Kumbakonam, Kanchi, and Srirangam in Tamil Nadu.

### Painting in the Vijayanagar Empire:

- ❖ Painting in the Vijayanagar Empire, which evolved into the Mysore style of painting, is best illustrated in the elaborate wall paintings of temples.
- ❖ **The Vijayanagar School and Mysore Painting:**
  - In addition to architecture and sculpture, the Vijayanagar emperors were enthusiastic patrons of painting.
  - The Vijayanagar school of painting was renowned for its **frescoes** of Hindu mythological themes on temple walls and ceilings.
  - The rulers of Vijayanagar encouraged literature, art, architecture, religious, and philosophical discussions.
  - With the fall of the Vijayanagar empire after the Battle of Talikota in 1565 CE, the artists who were under royal patronage migrated to various other places such as Mysore, Tanjore, and Surpur.
  - Absorbing the local artistic traditions and customs, the Vijayanagar school of painting gradually evolved into many styles of painting in South India, including the **Mysore and Tanjore schools of painting**.
  - Mysore painting, an important form of South Indian classical painting, developed out of Vijayanagar painting and originated in the southern town of Mysore, in Karnataka, during the reign of the Vijayanagar emperors.



### Characteristics of Vijayanagar Painting:

- ❖ Mysore paintings are known for their elegance, muted colors, and attention to detail. Popular themes include **Hindu gods and goddesses** and scenes from Hindu mythology.
- ❖ The paintings are characterized by delicate lines, intricate brush strokes, graceful delineation of figures, and the discreet use of bright vegetable colors and lustrous gold leaf.

- ❖ More than mere decorative pieces, the paintings are designed to inspire feelings of devotion and humility in the viewer.
- ❖ The painter's individual skill in giving expression to various emotions is therefore of paramount importance to this style of painting.
- ❖ The painters in Mysore prepared their own materials. The colors were from natural sources of vegetable, mineral, leaves, stones, and flowers. Brushes were made with squirrel hairs for delicate work, and for superfine lines, a brush made of pointed blades of a special variety of grass was used.
- ❖ Due to the long-lasting quality of the earth and vegetable colors used, the original Mysore paintings still retain their freshness and luster even today.



**Dashavatar Painting at Virupaksha Temple, Hampi**

❖ **Wall Paintings:**

- Vijayanagar art includes wall paintings such as the **Dashavatara** (the Ten Avatars of Vishnu) and the **Girija Kalyana** (the marriage of Parvati, Shiva's consort) in the Virupaksha Temple at Hampi; the Shiva Purana murals (the Tales of Shiva) at the Virabhadra temple at Lepakshi; and Kamaakshi and Varadaraja temples at Kanchi.

**Manuscripts in Vijayanagar Empire:**

- ❖ The most famous of the manuscripts detailing the various nuances of the Mysore school is the Sritattvanidhi, a voluminous work of 1500 pages prepared under the **patronage of Mummadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar**.
  - This pictorial digest is a compendium of illustrations of gods, goddesses, and mythological figures with instructions to painters on an incredible range of topics concerning composition placement, color choice, individual attributes, and mood.
  - The seasons, eco-happenings, animals, and plant world are also effectively depicted in these paintings as co-themes or contexts.
  - Other Sanskrit literary sources such as the **Vishnudharmottara Purana, Abhilasitarthacintamani, and Sivatatvaratnakara** also highlight the objectives and principles of painting, methods of preparing pigments, brushes, qualifications of the chitrakar (the traditional community of painters), and the technique to be followed.



**Sritattvanidhi  
The manuscript of  
Vijayanagar**

### Religion, Language and Literature under Vijayanagara Empire :

- ❖ The Rayas of Vijayanagar regarded all sects of Hinduism alike, built temples of **Shiva and Vishnu** and patronized them by lavish grants. They patronized even Jains and Muslims.
- ❖ Telugu language and literature was given a preferential treatment and **Telugu was treated as the official language** of the empire. Simultaneously, Sanskrit and other languages were encouraged by the Vijayanagar rulers.
- ❖ The renowned **Telugu poet Srinatha** was honored with **Kanakabhishekam** by **Proudhadevaraya** of the first dynasty of the rulers.
- ❖ Particularly, the reign of Krishnadevaraya marked a new era in the literary history of south India. He was himself a scholar and authored **Amuktamalyada**, a celebrated Telugu work.
- ❖ His court known as **Bhuvanavijayam**, was adorned by such **eminent poets** like Allasani Peddana, Nandi Timmana, Dhurjati, Tenali Ramakrishna, Mallana, Ramarajabhushana, Pingali Surana and Rudra, known as **Ashtadiggajas**.
- ❖ The greatest of them was **Allasani Peddana** whose famous work Manucharitra heralded the eminence of the native genius of Telugus.

### Assignment/Self-study:

#### Decline of Vijayanagar Empire :

- ❖ The local **Muhammadan Dynasties of Southern India** preserved their independence until the firm establishment of the Mughal Empire in the north.
- ❖ For a time, they had to struggle against Vijayanagar. But in 1565 they combined against that power, and, aided by a rebellion within its own borders, they **overthrew it at Talikota in 1565**.
- ❖ In a decisive battle fought on the 23rd January, 1565 on the south bank of the Krishna near the village of Rakkasi Tangadi, Vijayanagar was defeated and Ramaraya, who led the Vijayanagar armies, was killed.
- ❖ **Tirumala Raya**, the younger brother of Ramaraya, along with his puppet ruler, Sadasiva Raya fled to Penukonda in Anantapur district with all the treasure.
- ❖ The victorious armies of Deccan then marched towards Vijayanagar. Uninhibited looting of the city by them as well as the ruthless robbers went on for days together.
- ❖ The **Battle of Talikota** marks the final downfall of Vijayanagar but its local Chiefs or Nayaks kept hold of their respective fiefs, and the Muhammadan kings of the south were only able to annex a part of its dominions.
- ❖ From the Nayaks are descended the well - known **Palegars of the Madras Presidency, and the Maharaja of Mysore**.
- ❖ One of the blood-royals of Vijayanagar fled to Chandragiri, and founded a line which exercised a prerogative of its former sovereignty, by granting the site of Madras to the English in 1639.
- ❖ Tirumala Raya after reaching Penukonda ruled for some time and tried his best to rebuild the empire but failed.
- ❖ The last ruler of Vijayanagar dynasty was Sriranga III.

**Important Terminologies:**

Key Term/Concept:	Meaning:
(a) Pradhani	Prime Minister
(b) Raysani	Recorded oral order of king
(c) Karnikam	Accountant
(d) Kadamal, Irai, Vrai	Kinds of Taxes
(e) Athavane	Land Revenue Department
(f) Mahanayakachara	Acted as linkage between kings & villages.
(g) Padikaval	Selling of Policing Rights
(h) Talara	Watchman

**Bahmani Sultanate:**

- ❖ Bahmani Sultanate/Empire was a **Muslim state of the Deccan** and was one of the great medieval Indian kingdoms. It was in the North Deccan region to the river Krishna.
- ❖ The kingdom was **founded by Afghan Alauddin Hasan Gangu in 1347** after he revolted against the Sultan of Delhi, Muhammad bin Tughluq.
- ❖ He assumed the title of Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah (1347-58), it is from this title that the kingdom was called the Bahmani kingdom.
- ❖ He established his capital at:
  - Gulbarga till 1424,
  - Later shifted to Bidar by Ahmad Shah.
- ❖ The Bahmani contested the control of the Deccan with the Hindu Vijayanagara Empire to the south.
- ❖ The sultanate reached the peak of its power during the **Vizierate (1466–1481) of Mahmud Gawan**.
- ❖ About eighteen kings ruled during the nearly 200 years of the reign.
- ❖ The kingdom got divided into four smaller ones like:
  - Baridshahi (Bidar)
  - Qutub Shahi (of Golkonda),



- Adamshahi (of Ahmadnagar), and
- Adilshahi (of Bijapur), known collectively as the Deccan sultanates.
- ❖ Outcome of the failed policies of Muhammad Tughlaq. The weakening his hold over the distant areas of his empire also contributed to the cause of establishment of the Bahmani Kingdom.

Vijaynagar	Bahmani	
1335 Harihara coronation		1485 <span style="color: red;">Split in 5</span>
1340		1490
1345	Allaudiin Hasan	1498 Portugese entry
1350		1500
1355 Bukka		1505
1360		1509 Krishna Dev Raya
1365		1515 Paes
1370		1520
1377 Madurai Sultan wiped out/Harihara II		1525
1380		1530
1385		1535
1390		1543 Sadashiva Raya
1397	Firuz Shah Bahmani	1545
1400		1550
1404 Devraya I		1555
1410 nicoloconti		1565 Bannhatti battle (Tallikota)
1422		1567
1425 Dev Raya II		1570
1430		1575
1435 Abdur Razzaq		1580
1440		1585
1446		1590
1450		1595
1455		1600
1460		1605
1465		1610
1470		1615
1475		1620
1480		1625
		1630

**Muhammad Qasim Hindu Shah Astarabadi (1560 – 1620):**

- ❖ He was also known as **Firishta**.
- ❖ He was a Persian historian, who later settled in India and served the Deccan Sultans as their court historian.
- ❖ His father was brought to Ahmednagar, India, to teach Persian to the prince Miran Husain Nizam Shah.
- ❖ In 1589, Firishta left for Bijapur to enter the service of King Ibrahim Adil II.
- ❖ He wrote **Tarikh-i Firishta and the Gulshan-i Ibrahimi**.

**Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah (1347-58):**

- ❖ His earlier name was **Zafar Khan**. (Afghan officer of Muhammad Bin Tughlaq)
- ❖ Taking advantage of the weak rule of Muhammad Bin Tughlaq he revolted and founded the Bahmani dynasty in 1347 A.D. with the capital at Gulbarga.
- ❖ As per Ferishta, he was also called **Hasan Gangu**.
- ❖ Along with Bahmani, Vijayanagara Kingdom also came into being in 1336.
- ❖ He along with several Afghan Amirs had been deployed by Muhammad Tughlaq to exercise control in the Deccan.
- ❖ The Bahmani empire under Hasan extended from Daulatabad in the west to Bhongir in Telangana in the east and from the Warangal River to the north of Krishna in the South.
- ❖ **Debhal** was an important sea port.
- ❖ For administrative purposes, he divided his empire into four parts and appointed a governor for each part.
- ❖ He was very generous and followed a policy of goodwill.
- ❖ Also, he was the first Muslim ruler of India who ordered that **‘Jaziya’ should not be levied on the Hindus**.
- ❖ Hasan allowed all agricultural produce to be imported in his Kingdom without any duties.
- ❖ He renamed:
  - Daulatabad to Fatahab
  - Gulbarga as Ahsanabad and made it the capital of Deccan.
- ❖ The King died at 67.



**Muhammed Shah I (1358 – 1377):**

- ❖ He ascended the throne in **1358**.
- ❖ He was better known as an organizer of the Bahmani Kingdom and founder of its institutions.
- ❖ His Silver throne from his father was replaced by the magnificent **‘Takht-e-Firoza’** (Turquoise Throne) presented to him by **Raya of Telangana**.
- ❖ He constructed **‘Jama Masjid’** in Gulbarga Fort and **Shah Bazaar Masjid** in Gulbarga town.



**‘Jama Masjid’ in Gulbarga Fort**



- ❖ Like his father Alauddin Bahman Shah, he fought against Vijayanagar and also fought a war with Warangal.
- ❖ Sultan invaded Telangana, Kanya Nayak offered Huns, elephants and horses along with Golkonda Town.
- ❖ Sultan died from drinking too much.
- ❖ During his reign the coins were struck in the name of Muhammad Shah I in silver and a Gold coin is also known.

### Tajuddin Firuz Shah (1397-1422):

- ❖ He fought against Vijayanagar & Berar.
- ❖ He **invaded Vijayanagar** with victories in c.1398 CE and c.1408 CE, however, faced a defeat in c.1420 CE at the hands of Deva Raya I.
- ❖ He expanded the Bahmani kingdom towards **Berar by defeating the Gond Raja Narsing Rai** of Kherla.
- ❖ A huge tribute was paid to Firuz and a daughter of Rai was married to him.
- ❖ He was well acquainted with the religious sciences such as commentaries on the **Quran, jurisprudence and natural sciences** too (such as botany, geometry, logic, etc.
- ❖ He was a calligraphist, poet and also had interests in astronomy.
- ❖ He built an observatory near Daulatabad.
- ❖ He was also well versed in **Persian, Arabic, Turkish, Telugu, Kannada & Marathi**.
- ❖ He was determined to make Deccan the cultural center of India.
- ❖ He inducted Hindus in administration.
- ❖ Chaul and Dabhol were the two famous ports of his time.
- ❖ He was forced to abdicate in favor of his brother Ahmad Shah I, Ahmad Shah was called a saint (wali) on account of his association with the famous **Sufi Saint Gesu Daraz**.
- ❖ Ahmad Shah shifted the capital from Gulbarga to Bidar.

### List of Bahmani Sultans:

<b>Gulbarga Period (75 years)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Aladdin Hassan Bahman Shah (1347-58)</li> <li>❖ Muhammed Shah I (1358-1375)</li> <li>❖ Aladdin Mujahid Shah (1375 - 1378)</li> <li>❖ Da'ud Shah (1378 - 1378)</li> <li>❖ Muhammad Shah II (1378 - 1397 AD)</li> <li>❖ Ghiyath ud-Din (1397 - 1397 AD)</li> <li>❖ Shams-ud-Din (1397 AD -1397 AD)</li> </ul>
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	❖ Taj ud-Din Firuz Shah (1397 - 1422 AD)
<b>Bidar Period (116 years)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Ahmad Shah I Wali (1422 – 1436)</li> <li>❖ Aladdin Ahmad Shah II (1436 - 58 AD)</li> <li>❖ Aladdin Humayun Zalim Shah (1458 - 61 AD)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Appointed Mahmud Gawan (Persian merchant) and given the title ‘<b>Malik-e-tujjar</b>’ i.e., chief of Merchants.</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ Nizam Shah (1461 - 1463 AD) - Minor Prince</li> <li>❖ Mohammed Shah III Lashkari (1463 - 82 AD)</li> <li>❖ Mohammed Shah IV (1482 -1518 AD)</li> <li>❖ Ahmad Shah III (1518 - 1520)</li> <li>❖ Aladdin Shah (1520 -1523 AD)</li> <li>❖ Wali-Allah Shah (1523 - 1526 AD)</li> <li>❖ Kalim-Allah Shah (1526 - 1527 AD)</li> </ul>

#### Mahmud Gawan:

- ❖ His real name was **Khwaja Mahmud Gilani** (Persian), who was born in 1411 and died in 1481.
- ❖ He became a minister in the court of Muhammad III (1463-1482) with the title **khwaju-e-jahan**.
- ❖ He was a patron of Mathematician, Islamic theology, Writer, Poet, and Artist, etc.
- ❖ Guardian of minor prince Nizam Shah (1461-63).
- ❖ The Bahmani Kingdom reached the height of its power and territorial limits.
- ❖ He built a Madrasa college in the capital city of Bidar.
- ❖ Plundered Kanchi against Vijayanagar/used Gunpowder & for almost 20 years he dominated the affairs of the state.
- ❖ He overran the western coastal area including Goa and Dabhol from Vijayanagar.
- ❖ He expanded its trade to Iran, Iraq, etc.
- ❖ Berar was the area of contention between Malwa and Bahmani Sultan and with the help of the ruler of Gujarat, he acquired it.
- ❖ **Reforms:**
  - Divided kingdom into 8 **provinces (Tarafs)**
  - Each tarafs governed by a **tarafdar**
  - The salary would be paid in **cash or Jagir**

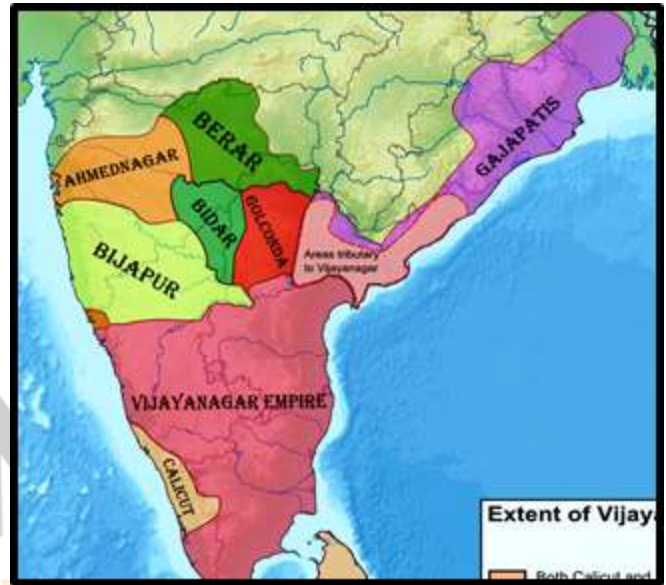
- Measure the land and to fix the amount to be paid by the cultivator to the state.

❖ **Problems:**

- The nobles were divided into two:
- The Old comers deccanis & Newcomers - afaqis (as a new comer Mahmud Gawan was hard put to win the confidence of nobles).
- He was killed by nobles at the age of 70 years.

**Fall of the Bahmani Kingdom:**

- ❖ The Bahmani Kingdom lasted for about 180 years. Of the eighteen rulers of this kingdom, five were murdered, three were deposed, two died of excessive drinking and another two were blinded.
- ❖ Most of the rulers were tyrants and mostly remained busy in fighting among themselves and with the neighboring Hindu Kingdoms particularly Vijayanagara.
- ❖ The following five Kingdoms came into being after the break-up of the Bahmani Kingdom:



- **Imad Shahi Kingdom of Berar (1488):**

- ✓ Founder - Fateh Ullah Imad Shah
- ✓ Imad Shahi Dynasty.

- **Adil Shahi Kingdom of Bijapur (1489):**

- ✓ Founder - Yusuf Adil Shah

- **Nizam Shahi Kingdom of Ahmednagar (1490):**

- ✓ Founder by Malik Ahmad

- **Qutab Shahi Kingdom of Golkunda (1512):**

- ✓ Founder - Qutab Shah

- **Barid Shahi Kingdom of Bidar (1526):**

- ✓ Founder - Kasim Barid



**1. Berar (1488):**

- It was founded by Fateh Ullah Imad Shah in 1488 called as Imad Shahi Dynasty.

- **Annexed by Nizam Shahi** rulers of Ahmednagar.

## 2. **Bijapur (1489):**

### ➤ **Yusuf Adil Shah:**

- ✓ He was the founder and named the dynasty as Adil Shahi Dynasty.

### ➤ **Muhammad Adil Shah:**

- ✓ He hired the **African Prime Minister - Ikhlas Khan.**
- ✓ He built Gol Gumbaz (world's second largest dome).

- Whispering Gallery

### ➤ **Ibrahim Adil Shah II:**

- ✓ He was known for his **religious tolerance.** He was a **secular** leader and he got the title of **Jagadguru Badshah.**
- ✓ He believed in spreading **cultural harmony** through music.
- ✓ He himself played many musical instruments.
- ✓ He composed for Saraswati and Ganapati.
- ✓ He wrote **Kitab-e-Navras in Dakhani.**
- ✓ He had around 4000 musicians in his court and was called **Lashkar-e-Nauras** and they were paid by the government.
- ✓ He introduced Dakhni language in courts replacing Persian.

- Finally Annexed by Aurangzeb.

## 3. **Ahmednagar (1490):**

- The founder of Ahmednagar was Malik Ahmad Shah.
- Annexed by Shahjahan.

## 4. **Golconda (1518):**

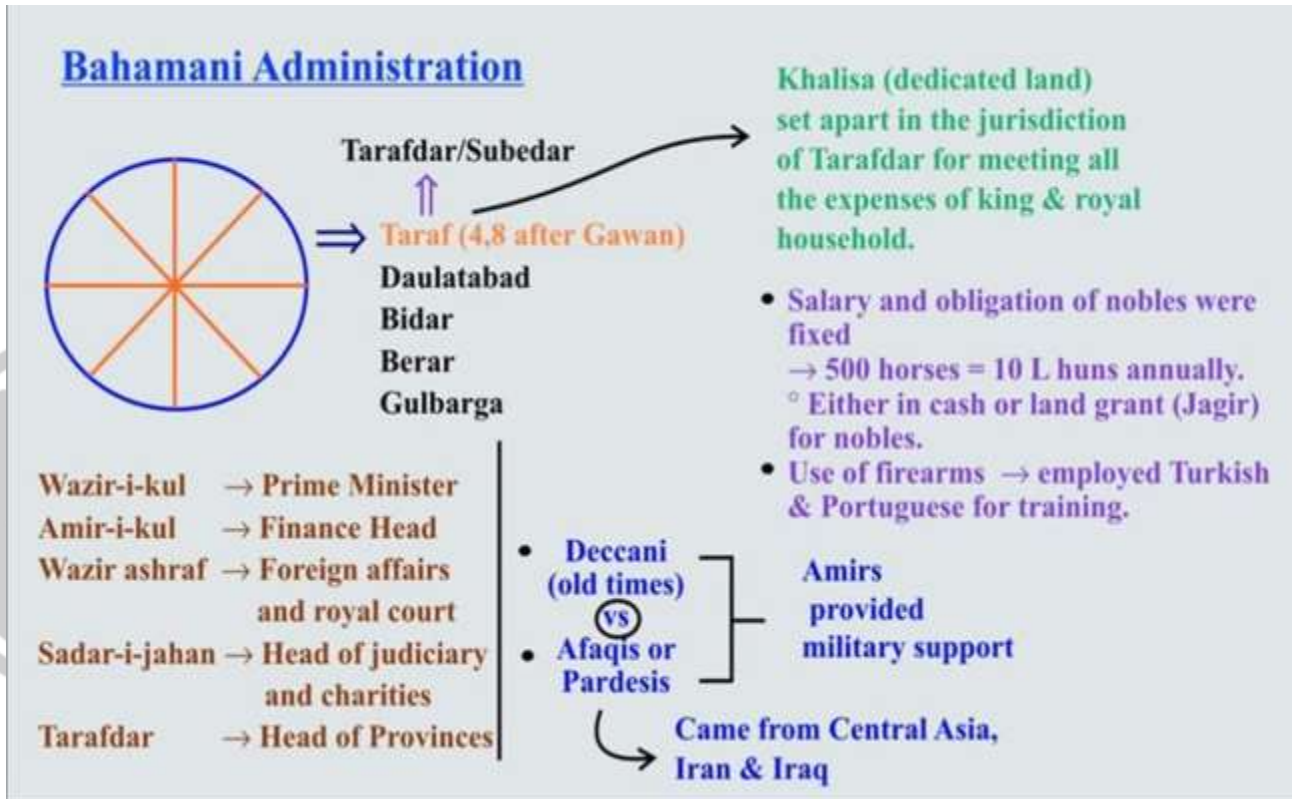
- Founder was Quli Qutub Shah.
- He is from Qutub Shahi Dynasty.
- He founded Bhagya Nagar (Hyderabad)
- He constructed Golconda Fort and Charminar.

## 5. **Bidar (1526):**

- Founder was Amir Ali Barid.
- Barid Shahi Dynasty
- Annexed by Adilshahi of Bijapur

- ❖ These five Muslim states of South India fought against each other but their primary enemy remained Vijayanagara.

- ❖ In 1565, the four states barring Berar formed a confederacy and fought against Vijayanagara in the Battle of Talikota and gave a crushing defeat to it.
- Ahmednagar conquered Berar in 1574
- Bijapur annexed Bidar in 1618-1619.
- Akbar occupied a part of Ahmednagar and the rest of it was occupied by Shah Jahan.
- Bijapur and Golconda were finally annexed by Aurangzeb.

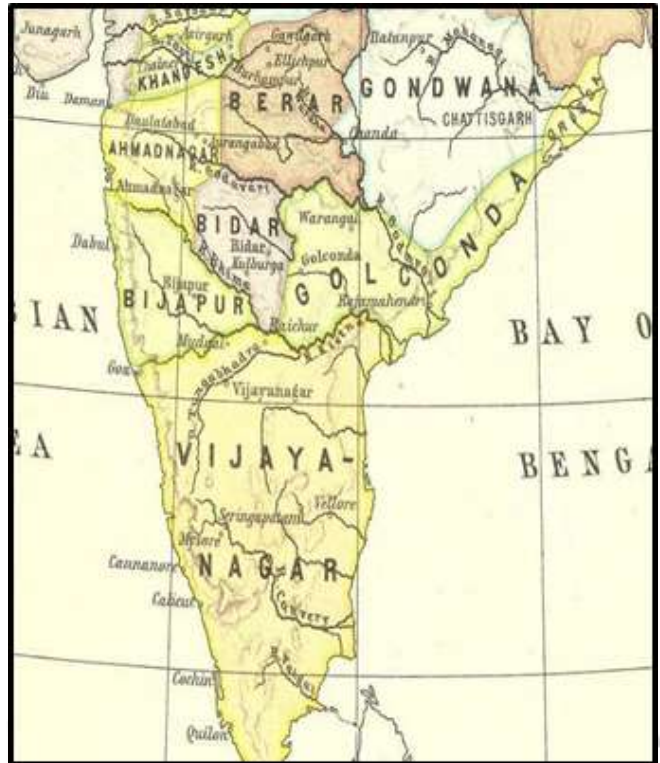


**Important Terminologies:**

Important Terms:	Meaning:
(a) Wazir-i-kul	Prime Minister
(b) Amir-i-kul	Finance Head
(c) Wazir ashraf	Foreign Affairs and Royal Court
(d) Sadar-i-jahan	Head of judiciary and charities
(e) Tarafdar	Head of Province

**Vijayanagar vs Bahmani:**

- ❖ The rising power of the Bahmani Sultans in the north.
- ❖ Bahmani received the **support of the rulers of Warangal and Telangana** who were afraid of the rising power of Vijayanagar,
- ❖ Bahmani rulers acted as a kind of a balancing factor.
- ❖ **Harihara II** was able to maintain his position in the face of the Bahmani-Warangal combine.
- ❖ His greatest success was in Belgaum and Goa in the west of the Bahmani Kingdom.
- ❖ The interests of the Vijayanagar rulers and the Bahmani sultans clashed in three separate and distinct areas:
  - The Tungabhadra Doab,
  - The Krishna-Godavari Delta,
  - The Marathwada Country



### Society and Culture during Bahmani Kingdom:

- ❖ Rulers of the dynasty believed that they descended from Bahman, the mythological figure of Greater Iranian legend and lore.
- ❖ Bahamani Sultans were patrons of the **Persian language, culture and literature**, and some members of the dynasty became well-versed in that language and composed its literature in that language.
- ❖ The **craftpersons of Bidar** were so famed for their inlay work on copper and silver that it came to be known as **Bidri**.
- ❖ Although the sultanate practiced **Shia Islam**, the majority of the population adhered to **Hinduism**.
- ❖ The common people, who were mostly Hindus, had to adjust their religious practices to become more acceptable to their Muslim political masters.

### Art and Architecture in Bahmani Kingdom:

- ❖ The Bahamani kingdom flourished in Architectural Monuments.
- ❖ In the field of architecture, the Bahamanis paved the way for the distinct style by inviting architects from Persia, Turkey, and Arabia and blended it with local styles.
- ❖ The culture that developed during this time was a **blend of both north and south styles** and also had its own distinct styles.
- ❖ **Gol Gumbaz** (the largest dome in India) and **Charminar** located at Hyderabad are the world-famous examples of Bahmani architecture.
- ❖ The Bahamanis of Deccan left an important heritage of Indo-Islamic art, language, and spread of Islamic tradition in South India.
- ❖ **Hazrat Banda Nawaz** (1321 - 1422 CE) the great Sufi saint was patronized by the Bahmani kings and his Dargah of Gulbarga is a place of pilgrimage for Hindus and Muslims alike.
- ❖ The **Persian scholar Mahmud Gawan** (Minister of Muhammad Shah III), built the well-known Madrasa in 1472 AD (building with three stories and has lecture halls, a library, a mosque and residential houses) which stands as a specimen of Bahmani architecture.
- ❖ The Bahmanis got many forts rebuilt and modified for their suitability in case of military requirements. These included the covered passages and bastions as an addition.



**Charminar at Hyderabad**



**Gombuj at Gulbarga**

- ❖ Few **forts were built at strategic places**, keeping this structure in mind; some among these are the Gulbarga, Daulatabad, Gawilgarh, Narnala, Parenda, Raichur, etc.
- ❖ The architectural works also include idgahs (prayer houses) built at Daulatabad, Gulbarga, Bidar and Kovilkonda.
- ❖ Their special feature is the parapet cresting and a dome in the middle above the central prayer-niche.



The Madrasa of Mahmud  
Gawan in Bidar



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