

The Turkish Invasion & the Establishment of the Delhi Sultanate

EXERCISE

A. Fill in the blanks :

1. Mahmud of Ghazni invaded India **seventeen** times in the course of **twenty five** years.
2. Mahmud's raids exposed the **weakness** of the northern states and paved the way for the **conquest** of India.
3. Qutbuddin Aibak took control of Muhammad Ghori's **Indian** possessions and laid the foundation of the **Delhi Sultanate**.
4. Iltutmish defeated the Rajput rulers of **Ujjain, Ranthambore, Malwa, and Gwalior** and brought the whole of North India upto the river Narmada under his control.
5. The **Caliph of Baghdad** recognized Iltutmish as the sovereign of India. He was succeeded by **his daughter Razia**.

B. Match the following :

- | A | B |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Mahmud of Ghazni | (a) general of Ghori |
| 2. First Battle of Tarain | (b) Prithviraj was defeated by Muhammad Ghori. |
| 3. Second Battle of Tarain | (c) Prithviraj defeated Muhammad Ghori |
| 4. Qutbuddin Aibak | (d) patron of art and learning |
| 5. Muhammad bin Bakhtiar Khalji | (e) viceroy of Ghori |

Answer:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. Mahmud of Ghazni | (d) patron of art and learning |
| 2. First Battle of Tarain | (c) Prithviraj defeated Muhammad Ghor |
| 3. Second Battle of Tarain | (b) Prithviraj was defeated by Muhammad Ghor. |
| 4. Qutbuddin Aibak | (e) viceroy of Ghor |
| 5. Muhammad bin Bakhtiar Khalji | (a) general of Ghor |

C. Choose the correct answer :

1. Mahmud of Ghazni was a powerful/weak/inefficient ruler.

Ans. Mahmud of Ghazni was a **powerful** ruler.

2. Mahmud of Ghazni was interested in territorial expansion in South Asia/Central Asia/West Asia.

Ans. Mahmud of Ghazni was interested in territorial expansion in **Central Asia**.

3. Firdausi was a great mathematician/historian/poet.

Ans. Firdausi was a great **poet**.

4. Nasiruddin Mahmud was a weak and inexperienced ruler and the affairs of the state were managed by Balban/Iltutmish/Razia Sultan on his behalf.

Ans. Nasiruddin Mahmud was a weak and inexperienced ruler and the affairs of the state were managed by **Balban** on his behalf.

5. Iltutmish/Qutbuddin Aibak/Balban never smiled or allowed others to laugh or joke in his court.

Ans. **Balban** never smiled or allowed others to laugh or joke in his court.

D. State whether the following are true or false :

1. The kingdoms of Ghazni and Ghor were established by the Abbasids.

Ans. False. Correct: The kingdoms of Ghazni and Ghor were established by the **Turks**.

2. During Mahmud's time, North India was divided and there was no unity.

Ans. True.

3. Iltutmish failed to crush the power of the governor of Bengal.

Ans. False.

Iltutmish crush the power of the governor of Bengal.

4. Razia Sultan was brave, intelligent and just.

Ans. False.

Correct : Razia Sultan was brave, intelligent and just **woman**.

5. Balban made the monarchy weak and dependent on the nobles.

Ans. False.

Correct : Balban made the monarchy absolute and all-powerful.

6. Sultan Mahmud annexed Punjab to create a gateway to India for future invasions.

Ans. True.

7. Mahmud of Ghazni was the founder of the Turkish rule in India.

Ans. False.

Correct : Muhammad Ghorī was the founder of the Turkish rule **in India**.

8. Muhammad Ghorī was as great a military leader as Mahmud of Ghazni.

Ans. False.

Correct : Muhammad Ghorī was **not** as great a military leader as Mahmud of Ghazni.

E. Answer the following questions in one or two words/ sentences :

Question 1.

What happened to the Abbasid Caliphate by the 9th century CE?

Answer:

By the end of the 9th century CE. The once mighty Abbasid empire disintegrated into a number of independent states ruled by the Turks who had earlier served in the armies of the Caliphs.

Question 2.

Name the author of the great epic Shahnama.

Answer:

The Persian poet Firdausi, author of the great epic Shahnama.

Question 3.

What is the significance of the defeat of Prithviraj in the Second Battle of Tarain?

Answer:

The defeat of Prithviraj marked the end of Rajput rule in North India. The kingdom of Delhi passed into the hands of Muhammad Ghori. The throne of Delhi was occupied by Muslim rulers from then till 1858.

Question 4.

Who did Muhammad Ghori appoint as his viceroy?

Answer:

Muhammad Ghori appointed Qutbuddin Aibak as his viceroy before returning to Ghor.

Question 5.

For how many years did the sultans of Delhi rule the country?

Answer:

300 years.

Question 6.

Mention one important reason for the decline of Buddhism in India after the Turkish invasion.

Answer:

Buddhist monasteries and libraries were wantonly destroyed by the Muhammad bin Bakhtiar Khilji. This invasion dealt a death blow to Buddhism in India.

Question 7.

Name the founder of the Turkish kingdom in India.

Answer:

Muhammad Ghori was founder of the Turkish kingdom in India

Question 8.

Why was Qutbuddin known as 'lakhbaksh'?

Answer:

Lakhbaksh means 'giver of lakhs'. Qutbuddin Aibak was given this name because of his generosity.

Question 9.

How did Iltutmish save India from the threat of a Mongol invasion?

Answer:

Once Mongol chief, Chinghiz Khan reached the borders of India in search of the Shah of Persia who fled towards India to get shelter but Iltutmish politely refused the Mongol chief to provide refuge and in this way he saved the threat of Mongol invasion.

Question 10.

Why did Iltutmish nominate his daughter Razia as his successor?

Answer:

Iltutmish nominated his daughter Razia as his successor because his sons were inexperienced, weak and worthless ruler and they spent all their time in fun and pleasure loving things whereas Razia was a brave, intelligent and just woman. She possessed all the qualities of a great monarch.

Question 11.

Give any one example to show that Mahmud was a patron of learning.

Answer:

He was a patron of art and learning and enjoyed the company of learned scholars and poets. The Persian poet Firdausi, author of the great epic Shahnama, and the great Persian historian and mathematician Al Beruni, were among the eminent scholars patronized by Mahmud.

Question 12.

Name the famous Rajput ruler of Delhi and Ajmer.

Answer:

Prithviraj Chauhan, the Rajput ruler of Delhi and Ajmer.

Question 13.

Mention one important reason for the victory of Muhammad Ghori in the Second Battle of Tarain.

Answer:

Prithviraj organized a confederacy of Rajput chiefs to meet the challenge. Unfortunately, the most powerful Rajput ruler, Raja Jaichandra of Kanauj, refused to help him.

F. Answer the following questions briefly :

Question 1.

How did Sultan Mahmud transform his capital, Ghazni? How do we know he was a patron of art and learning?

Answer:

Sultan Mahmud transform Ghazni into a magnificent capital city. Ghazni was adorned with splendid mosques, libraries and a museum. His court glittered with sparkling pearls, mbis and diamonds. This shows that he was a patron of art and learning.

Question 2.

Discuss the (a) causes and (b) results of the First and Second Battles of Tarain.

Answer:

Muhammad Ghori wanted to envieled his kingdom with India's wealth. He decided to conquer India.

(a) First Battles of Tarain : In 1191 CE, Ghori attacked Prithviraj Chauhan, the Rajput ruler of Delhi and Ajmer. Prithviraj inflicted a crushing defeat on Ghori in the First

Question 3.

Give any five reasons to prove that Iltutmish was a shrewd, clever and capable ruler.

Answer:

1. The Turkish nobles who had challenged his claim to the throne were suppressed.

2. The revolt of the Khilji governor of Bengal was crushed.
3. The power of his external rivals, the rulers of Ghazni and Multan, was destroyed.
4. A new danger presented itself when the Mongol chief, Chinghiz Khan, reached the borders of India in pursuit of the Shah of Persia (Iran). The Shah had fled towards India in search of shelter. Iltutmish politely refused to give him refuge and by doing so he saved India from the threat of the Mongol invasion.
5. After having got rid of his enemies, Iltutmish defeated the Rajput rulers of Ujjain, Ranthambore, Malwa and Gwalior. He brought the whole of North India up to the river Narmada under his control. The Caliph of Baghdad recognized him as the sovereign of India.

Question 4.

Discuss the important developments that took place during the reign of Razia Sultan.

Answer:

The provincial governors rose in revolt against her. Razia tried to crush the revolt but was defeated and imprisoned. She won over the leader of the rebels, Altunia, by marrying him. Their attempt to recover the throne of Delhi ended in failure and both were killed in 1240 CE.

G Picture study :

This is the picture of a Turkish invader who was involved in the Battles of Tarain.



Question 1.

Identify the person in the picture.

Answer:

Muhammad Ghori

Question 2.

Why did he invade India?

Answer:

At the end of the 12th century CE, a new kingdom based in Ghor arose in north – western Afghanistan (near Ghazni). The founder was Ghiyasuddin Ghori. His famous brother, Muizuddin Muhammad, is commonly referred to as Muhammad Ghori decided to conquer India and enrich his kingdom with India's wealth. He first brought the frontier areas of Multan, Sind and Punjab under his control.

Question 3.

The Battles of Tarain laid the foundations of Turkish rule in North India. Do you agree? Why?

Answer:

Yes. Two years after the Second Battle of Tarain, Muhammad attacked Kanauj and killed Jaichandra. Ghori annexed the Indian territories to his empire and appointed Qutbuddin Aibak as his viceroy before returning to Ghor.

Question 4.

Explain the causes of the success of the Turkish invaders against the Rajputs.

Answer:

Prithviraj organized a confederacy of Rajput chiefs to meet the challenge. Unfortunately, the most powerful Rajput ruler, Raja Jaichandra of Kanauj, refused to help him. The two armies clashed in the Second Battle of Tarain in 1192 CE. This time, Muhammad Ghori routed the Rajput army.

OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Question 1.

What did Mahmud do with the vast treasures he had looted from India?

Answer:

Mahmud used the treasures which he drained away from India by transforming Ghazni into a magnificent capital city.

Many mosques, libraries and museum were built in Ghazni. The court of Ghazni was decorated with sparkling pearls, rubies and diamonds.

Question 2.

What is the significance of Muhammad Ghorī's victory' in the Second Battle of Tarain?

Answer:

The second battle of Tarain marked the end of the Rajput rule in North India and the kingdom of Delhi passed into the hands of Muhammad Ghorī, which remained with the Muslim rulers till 1858. This battle helped Ghorī to annex more Northern Indian territories and expand his empire.

Question 3.

What effect did Muhammad Ghorī's invasion of India have on Buddhism in India?

Answer:

Due to Muhammad Ghorī's invasion of India many Buddhist monasteries and libraries were badly destroyed by the invaders. These invasions gave a death blow to Buddhism in India.

Question 4.

Why is Muhammad Ghorī's conquest of North India considered to be a turning point in Indian History?

Answer:

Muhammad Ghorī's conquest of North India is considered to be a turning point in Indian History because within ten years of the Second Battle of Tarain, the powerful Rajputs kingdoms collapsed and India came into the hands of those who ruled over it for the next 300 years, that is the Sultans of Delhi.

Question 5.

Which was the most ambitious and profitable expedition of Mahmud Ghazni?

Answer:

The attack on the Somnath temple in Kathiawar was Mahmud's most ambitious and profitable expedition.

Question 6.

Throw some light on art and learning during Mahmud Ghazni's period?

Answer:

Mahmud Ghazni was a patron of art and learning and enjoyed , the company of learned scholars and poets. The Persian poet Firdausi who wrote 'Shahnama' and the great

Persian historian and mathematician Al Beruni were among the eminent scholars patronized by Mahmud.

Question 7.

Describe the First Battle of Tarain?

Answer:

The First Battle of Tarain was fought in AD 1191 between Muhammad Ghori and Prithviraj Chauhan the Rajput ruler.

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