

## **PAPER VII: HISTORY OF INDIA IV (c.1206 - 1550)**

**Paper Code: HHSCR3071T**

### **Module 1**

#### **I. Interpreting the Delhi Sultanate:**

Survey of sources: Persian tarikh tradition; vernacular histories; epigraphy

#### **II. Sultanate Political Structures:**

- (a) Foundation, expansion and consolidation of the Sultanate of Delhi; The Khaljis and the Tughluqs; Mongol threat and Timur's invasion; The Lodis: Conquest of Bahlul and Sikandar; Ibrahim Lodi and the battle of Panipat
- (b) Theories of kingship; Ruling elites; Sufis, ulama and the political authority; imperial monuments and coinage
- (c) Emergence of provincial dynasties: Bahamanis, Vijayanagar, Gujarat, Malwa, Jaunpur and Bengal
- (d) Consolidation of regional identities; regional art, architecture and literature

### **Module 2**

#### **III. Society and Economy:**

- (a) Iqta and the revenue-free grants
- (b) Agricultural production; technology
- (c) Changes in rural society; revenue systems
- (d) Monetization; market regulations; growth of urban centers; trade and commerce; Indian Ocean trade

#### **IV. Religion, Society and Culture:**

- (a) Sufi silsilas: Chishtis and Suhrawardis; doctrines and practices; social roles
- (b) Bhakti movements and monotheistic traditions in South and North India; Women Bhaktas; Nathpanthis; Kabir, Nanak and the Sant tradition
- (c) Sufi literature: malfuzat; premakhayans

### **ESSENTIAL READINGS**

Mohammad Habib and K.A. Nizami, eds, Comprehensive History of India, Vol. V, The Delhi Sultanate.

Satish Chandra, Medieval India I. Peter Jackson, The Delhi Sultanate.

Catherine Asher and Cynthia Talbot, India Before Europe.

Tapan Raychaudhuri and Irfan Habib, eds, Cambridge Economic History of India, Vol. I.

K.A. Nizami, Religion and Politics in the Thirteenth Century.

W.H. McLeod, Karine Schomer, et al, Eds, The Sants.

S.A.A. Rizvi, A History of Sufism in India, Vol. I. Mohibul Hasan, Historians of Medieval India.

### **SUGGESTED READINGS**

Cynthia Talbot, Pre-colonial India in Practice.

Simon Digby, War Horses and Elephants in the Delhi Sultanate.

I.H. Siddiqui, Afghan Despotism.

Burton Stein, New Cambridge History of India: Vijayanagara. Richard M. Eaton, ed.,  
India's Islamic Traditions.

Vijaya Ramaswamy, Walking Naked: Women, Society, and  
Spirituality in South India.

Sheldon Pollock, Languages of the Gods in the World of Men. Pushpa Prasad, Sanskrit  
Inscriptions of the Delhi Sultanate. Andre Wink, Al-Hind, Vols. I-III.