

Rulers of Delhi Sultanate for SSC & Bank Exams - GK Notes

The Delhi Sultanate refers to five Muslim kingdoms or dynasties that ruled over the territory of Delhi between the years 1206 to 1526 CE. In the 16th Century, the last rulers of the Delhi Sultanate were defeated by Mughals, who then laid the foundation of the Mughal Empire in India. Before the Mughal Empire came into existence, the Delhi Sultanate was considered to be the most powerful State in the Northern India. Many government exams include the topic of history in their questions, thus knowing facts about history is important for you to crack these exams. Read this article to know in detail about the Rulers of Delhi Sultanate.

The five dynasties of the Delhi Sultanate include:

- **The Mamluk Dynasty (1206-1290)**
- **The Khilji Dynasty (1290 -1320)**
- **The Tughlaq Dynasty (1320-1414)**
- **The Sayyid Dynasty (1414-1451)**
- **The Afghan Lodi Dynasty (1451-1526)**

Let's find out more about these great dynasties and the Rulers of Delhi Sultanate.

The Mamluk Dynasty (1206-1290)

Here is a list of the Mamluk Rulers of the Delhi Sultanate in this era.

Ruler	Reign
Qutb-ud-din Aibak	1206–1210

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Aram Shah	1210–1211
Shams-ud-din Iltutmish	1211–1236
Rukn-ud-din Firuz	1236
Raziyat-ud-din Sultana	1236–1240
Muiz-ud-din Bahram	1240–1242
Ala-ud-din Masud	1242–1246
Nasir-ud-din Mahmud	1246–1266
Ghiyas-ud-din Balban	1266–1286
Muiz-ud-din Qaiqabad	1286–1290
Kayumars	1290

- Qutb-ud-din Aibak was the **first ruler of the Mamluk Dynasty** (also called the slave dynasty). He was a generous ruler and ruled over the Sultanate of Delhi for over four years. **Qutb-ud-din Aibak laid the foundation of Qutub Minar.**
- Another important ruler of the Mamluk Dynasty was **Shams-ud-din Iltutmish**. He was the **son-in-law of Qutb-ud-din Aibak**. Shams-ud-din Iltutmish was known for the Iqta system of land revenue and the completion of Qutub Minar.
- After Shams-ud-din Iltutmish, his military trained daughter Raziya Sultan (Raziyat-ud-din Sultana) took over the Sultanate of Delhi. Balban succeeded Raziya Sultan, followed by his grandson Qaiqabad (Kaikubad).
- Jalal-ud-din Firuz Khilji aka Malik Firuz killed Qaiqabad and put an end to the Mamluk Dynasty or Slave Dynasty.

The Khilji Dynasty (1290-1320)

Here is the list of Khilji rulers who ruled over Delhi Sultanate in this era.

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Ruler	Reign
Jalal-ud-din Firuz Khilji	1290–1296
Ala-ud-din Khilji	1296–1316
Qutb-ud-din Mubarak Shah	1316–1320

- Jalal-ud-din Firuz Khilji was also known as the general of slaves and a very smart sultan. He avoided wars with invaders such as Halaku and Ulugh Khan. In fact, he made peace with Ulugh Khan by giving his daughter.
- Jalal-ud-din Firuz Khilji was assassinated by his nephew Ala-ud-din Khilji. He was the first Muslim ruler to be brave enough to cross the Satpuras, Vindhya and Narmada River to conquer Deccan.
- Ala-ud-din Khilji passed away in the year 1316 and was succeeded by his son Mubarak Shah. **Mubarak Shah was killed by Khusru Khan** who sat on the throne of Delhi Sultanate for some time. Later, he was killed by Ghiyath-al-din Tughluq, which marked the era of the Tughlaq Dynasty.

The Tughlaq Dynasty (1320–1414)

Here is the list of Tughlaq rulers who ruled over Delhi Sultanate in this era.

Ruler	Reign
Ghiyath-al-din Tughlaq	1321–1325
Muhammad bin Tughlaq	1325–1351
Firuz Shah Tughlaq	1351–1388
Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq II	1388–1389
Abu Bakr Shah	1389–1390
Nasir ud-din Muhammad Shah III	1390–1393
Ala-ud-Din Sikandar Shah I	1393



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Mahmud Nasir ud din	1393–1394
Nusrat Shah	1394–1399
Nasiruddin Mahmud Shah	1399–1413

- The **first ruler of the Tughlaq Dynasty was Ghiyath-al-Din Tughlaq**, who was also known by the name Ghazi Malik.
- He was succeeded by Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq who was known for his misadventures related to administration and war.
- Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq was succeeded by Firuz Shah Tughlaq who was half Muslim (his mother was a Hindu). He was known to establish cities. Under his reign, cities like Firuzshah Kotla (Delhi), Hisar, Jaunpur (West Bengal), Fatahabad, Firozabad were founded.
- After the demise of Firuz Shah Tughlaq, his successors were killed one by one and the Delhi Sultanate lost its charm and importance.

The Sayyid Dynasty (1414–1451)

Here is the list of Sayyid rulers who ruled over Delhi Sultanate in this era.

Ruler	Reign
Khizr Khan	1414–1421
Mubarak Shah	1421–1434
Muhammad Shah	1434–1445
Alam Shah	1445–1451

- After the Tughlaq Dynasty, Khizr Khan founded the Sayyid Dynasty. He was the **governor of Multan and Timur's deputy in India**. Khizr Khan died of illness and was succeeded by his son Mubarak Shah.

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- Mubarak Shah had a vision of expanding the empire, but his plans were foiled by opposition and revolts of the nobles. Even with this opposition, Mubarak Shah was an efficient ruler of the Delhi Sultanate.
- After Mubarak Shah, the Delhi Sultanate was ruled by two incompetent rulers - Muhammad Shah and Ala-ud-din Alam Shah thereafter. Ala-ud-din Alam Shah was the last ruler of the Sayyid Dynasty. He gave up the throne voluntarily in favour of Bahlol Lodi.

The Afghan Lodi Dynasty (1451–1526)

Here is the list of Afghan Lodi rulers who ruled over Delhi Sultanate in this era.

Ruler	Reign
Bahlol Lodi	1451–1489
Sikander Lodi	1489–1517
Ibrahim Lodi	1517–1526

- The rulers of the Afghan Lodi Dynasty were the last rulers of the Delhi Sultanate. They tried their best to bring Delhi to the past glory, but could not succeed.
- **Bahlol Lodi was the first ruler of the Afghan Lodi Dynasty** and was succeeded by his son Sikandar Lodi.
- Sikandar Lodi was known for his leadership and thirst for supremacy. He launched campaigns against several kingdoms. In the year 1503, he established the city of Agra. He also transferred his headquarter to Agra due to its strategic location.
- **Sikandar Lodi was succeeded by his son Ibrahim Lodi, who was the last of the Sultans of the Delhi Sultanate.**

- One of Ibrahim Lodi's uncles, Daulat Khan Lodi, fled to Kabul and invited Babur to attack India. Taking Daulat Khan Lodi's advice, Babur attacked Northern India and thus the Afghan Lodi Dynasty came to an end.


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