

EARLY HISTORIANS OF INDIA  
(PART-1)  
P.G. SEM-3, CC-10,

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DR. MD. NEYAZ HUSSAIN  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & HOD  
P.G.DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
MAHARAJA COLLEGE, ARA  
(BIHAR)

# INTRODUCTION

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Ancient Indian historiography before 7<sup>th</sup> century was largely based of *Itihasa-Purana* tradition. The traditional concept of history went changing with developing historical sense, prevailing historical tradition in a contemporary age and events of time.

Period from 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> century proved to be a blooming one in the history of historical writing in ancient India.

- A number of historical biographies were produced

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- The court poet who wrote the biography of his patron was no less than a historiographer
  - The kings encouraged them to undertake such works
  - The kings wanted their court poets to record both the past and contemporary events for the purpose of preserving them for the future

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- Some biographies are production of the historical school that flourished in the Post Harsh period under the patronage of the Palas of Bengal, the Paramars of Malwa, the Chalukyas of Gujrat and Kalyani and the Chahamanas of Sakambari. The chronicles were also written in Sindh, Kashmir, Gujrat, Odisha and Nepal.
  - The writings of historical biographies and chronicles were the two significant stages in the evolution of Indian historiography

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- The biographies and chronicles composed during the period form important parts of historical literature
  - Besides these works other historical works of various kinds were produced during the period.
  - **CHRONICLE:** A factual written account of historical events in the order of their occurrence  
(क्रॉनिकल: घटित होने के क्रम में एक तथ्यात्मक लिखित विवरण या ऐतिहासिक घटनाएँ)
  - **BIOGRAPHY:** An account of some one's life written by someone else  
(जीवनी: किसी के जीवन का विवरण जो किसी दूसरे व्यक्ति द्वारा लिखा गया हो)

( To be continued)