



**SOURCES OF MEDIEVAL  
INDIAN HISTORY (PART-1)**  
**मध्यकालीन भारतीय इतिहास के  
स्रोत (भाग-1)**

**(UG , SEM-4, PAPER MJC-7)**

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# INTRODUCTION(परिचय)

The term medieval has been derived from the Latin words '*medius*' and '*aevum*' which means Middle Age. Medieval period is the period that lies between the ancient and the modern period. Medieval period in India is generally considered to be between 6th and the 18th century. For the convenience of studying the state and society of medieval India, historians usually divide the medieval period into the Early Medieval Period (700-1200) and Late Medieval Period (1200-1707).

# INTRODUCTION(परिचय)

The beginning of the early medieval period is typically taken to be the gradual decline of the Gupta Empire from about 480 to 550, ending the "classical" period, as well as "ancient India". In early medieval period in Northern India there was no larger state until the Delhi Sultanate, or certainly the Mughal Empire, but there were many dynasties. The late medieval period follows the Muslim conquests of the Indian subcontinent and the

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decline of Buddhism, the subsequent founding of the Delhi Sultanate and the creation of Indo-Islamic architecture, followed by the Bengal Sultanate. The beginning of the Mughal Empire in 1526 marked the commencement of the Mughal era. Sometimes, the Mughal era is also referred as the 'late medieval period. There are a large number of literary and archeological sources available for studying the history of

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Delhi Sultanate and the Mughal Empire.

The literary sources comprise biographies, autobiographies, court histories, chronicles, accounts of foreign travellers, and private correspondence etc. Among the archaeological sources, coins, inscriptions and monuments and paintings are important sources for the construction of the history of medieval period of India.

(To be continued)