

The background of the slide features a photograph of the Qutub Minar, a tall brick tower in Delhi, India. To its right is a smaller domed building with arched windows. The sky is clear and blue. The slide has a blue geometric overlay on the right side.

SOURCES OF MEDIEVAL INDIAN HISTORY (PART-4) मध्यकालीन भारतीय इतिहास के स्रोत (भाग-4)

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

Dr. MD. NEYAZ HUSSAIN
PROFESSOR & HOD
PG DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
MAHARAJA COLLEGE, VKSU, ARA
(BIHAR)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOURCES (पुरातात्विक स्रोत)

The Delhi Sultans did not leave behind enough epigraphic evidence of historical importance although their coins have proved to be very significant in fixing the chronology of events and correcting or ascertaining the genealogical tables of the rulers. The archaeological sources are of immense importance in the reconstruction of the history of South India and all those regional states which remained outside the influence of Muslim domination during the early medieval period. The monuments of the Sultanate period gives us an insight into the

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOURCES (पुरातात्विक स्रोत)

culture of the times. They are a living testimony to the intermingling of the Hindu and Muslim architectural traditions and structural designs; they reveal, in clear-cut terms, the living conditions, faiths and beliefs, and the sociocultural outlook of the sovereigns and the upper sections of the early medieval society. The inscriptions have been published mostly in the *Epigraphia Indo-Moslemica*, *Epigraphia Indica* and other antiquarian journals. A collection of all the inscriptions published in the

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOURCES (पुरातात्विक स्रोत)

Epigraphia Indo- Moslemica (1907-38), chronologically arranged with summaries, is given by V.S. Bendrey in **A Study of Muslim Inscriptions**. Edward Thomas extensively used the numismatic sources in **The Chronicles of the Pathan Kings of Delhi**. His work is supplemented by the catalogues of coins in various museums of India and England. The research conducted by Percy Brown, Burgess, Fergusson, Havell, Cousens, John Marshall and many other specialists in art and architecture provide ample material to the historiographer, interested in the reconstruction of the history of the early medieval India.

SOURCES OF MUGHAL PERIOD

(मुगल काल के स्रोत)

Numerous literary and archaeological sources are available for the reconstruction of history of the Mughal period.

► Literary Sources

There are a number of literary sources of the Mughal period. They range from the autobiographies of emperors to musical compositions.

Tuzuk-i-Baburi or the Memoirs of Babur is an autobiographical work in Turki language by Babur. It is a primary source for Babur's activities. It has been reckoned among the most enthralling and romantic works in the literature of all time.

SOURCES OF MUGHAL PERIOD (मुगल काल के स्रोत)

- ▶ ***Tarikh-i-Rashidi***, a Persian work, written by Mirza Muhammad Haidar Dughlat, is a valuable source material on the period of Babur and Humayun.
- ▶ ***Habib-us-Siyar*** and ***Humayun-nama***, written by Khvand Amir, are accounts of the reign of Babur and the first three years of the rule of Humayun.
- ▶ ***Humayun-nama*** of Gulbadan Begam, the daughter of Babur, is an authority on Humayun's reign.

SOURCES OF MUGHAL PERIOD

(मुगल काल के स्रोत)

- ▶ ***Tazkiratul-Waqiat*** of Jauhar Aftabchi (a Personal valet of Humayun) is a remarkable work throwing light on almost all facets of the life of Humayun.
- ▶ ***Tarikh-i-Humayun*** written by Bayazid is a valuable source material for the study of Humayun and Akbar.
- ▶ Important works on Akbar's reign comprises ***Tarikh-i-Akbar Shahi*** by Qandahari, ***Abul-Fazl's Akbar-nama***, ***Ain-i-Akbari***, ***Ruqat-Abul-Fazl***, and ***Insha-i-Abul-Fazl***, ***Tabaqat-i-Farishta*** by Mulla Muhammad Qasim Hindu Shah, ***Tarikh-i-Haqqi*** by Abdul-Haqq, etc.

SOURCES OF MUGHAL PERIOD (मुगल काल के स्रोत)

- ▶ *Tarikh-i-Sher-Shahi* composed by Abbas Khan Sarwani gives information of the reign of Sher Shah Suri.
- ▶ *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*, the autobiography of Jahangir, is an important source material for Akbar's last years, Jahangir's own rule, and the early life of Shah Jahan. It is very helpful to the student of Mughal period.
- ▶ *Iqbal-nama* of Mutamid Khan's and Muhammad Hadi's *Tatimma Waqiat-i-Jahangiri* are very useful for the study of reign of Jahangir.

SOURCES OF MUGHAL PERIOD (मुगल काल के स्रोत)

- ▶ Numerous chronicles were written during the reign of Shah Jahan. These include **Padshah-nama** of Aminai Qazvini, **Padshah-nama** of Abdul Hamid Lahori and **Shahjahan-nama** of Inayat Khan. These are very interesting narrations of Shahjahan's reign. For the reign of Aurangzeb, we have **Alamgir-nama** by Mirza Muhammad Kazim, **Maasir-i-Alamgiri** by Muhammad Saqi Mustaid Khan, **Muntakhab-ul-Lubab** by Muhammad Hashim Khafi Khan, etc, as important sources.

SOURCES OF MUGHAL PERIOD

(मुगल काल के स्रोत)

- ▶ Besides chronological accounts of the activities of the Emperors, a number of official works on provincial administration and statistical details also available. The royal grants and orders comprise yet another important source material for the period.
- ▶ There are great collections of poems written during the period which throw light on the social, economic and religious conditions of that time. Innumerable literary works on the lives of great men and saints also portray the life of the people in general.

SOURCES OF MUGHAL PERIOD (मुगल काल के स्रोत)

Works in Sanskrit and local languages also form a significant part in the unravelling of Mughal life. Besides **Sarvadesavrittant Sangrah** by Mahesh Thakur, a Sanskrit history of Akbar's reign, other works dealing with exploits of Rajputs are also remarkable. No account would be complete without a reference to Marathi sources such as **Kalami Bakhar** by Dattaji Trimbak, *Siva-Charitra Sahitya*, etc. Bakhar is *a form of historical narrative written in Marathi prose.*

(To be continued)