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Tender Heart High School,
Sector 33 B, Chandigarh
Class VII

Subject:- History and Civics

Teacher:- Mili Bhatnagar

Chapter 7
The Vijayanagara and Bahmani Kingdoms

Good Morning Students!

In this chapter we will study about the two regional kingdoms that sprang up in South India. But before we study it, let us deal with the causes for the decline of the Tughluq dynasty which paved the way for the decline / disintegration of the Delhi Sultanate.

1. Weak successors failed to administer the Sultanate and keep the territories intact. When the sultans became weak, the provinces became independent.
2. The Tughluq rule witnessed numerous revolts.
3. Muhammad bin Tughluq's policies such as transfer of capital and taxation in the doab made him unpopular.
4. Timur's invasion of 1398 was the final blow to the Tughluq Empire.

The Vijayanagara Empire

The Vijayanagar Empire was established by two brothers — Harihara and Bukka Rai — in 1336. They were feudatories of the Kakatiyas of Warangal. They rebelled against Muhammad bin Tughluq and declared their independence.

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Harihara ascended the throne in 1336. He ruled for 20 years. Bukka succeeded him and ruled till 1377. The brothers fought against the Hoysala ruler of Mysore and the king of Madurai. Bukka defeated the king of Madurai and annexed his territories.

The Vijayanagara Empire lasted for 310 years. Kings from the three main dynasties ruled the empire.

- Sangama
- Saluva
- Tuluva.

Important Rulers of Dynasties

Sangama - Harihara I, Bukka I

Saluva - Narsimhadeva Raya.

Tuluva - Vira Narsimha Raya, Krishnadeva Raya.

The greatest ruler of the Vijayanagara Empire was Krishnadeva Raya. He defeated the Bahmani Sultan and the king of Odisha. He also annexed the Raichur Doab. He went on tours of inspection to ensure that the people in the empire were happy and the officers were performing their tasks well. Krishnadeva was also a scholar of Telugu and Sanskrit.

Administration

The king was the supreme authority in all administrative matters. He was assisted

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by a council of ministers. The empire was divided into mandalam, each headed by a governor, nadus (districts), sthalas (sub-districts) and gramas (villages). Village administration became feudal in nature. Administrative posts also became hereditary.

Economic condition

Vijayanagara owed its prosperity to agriculture, and trade and commerce. Travellers such as Nicolo Conti and Abdur Razzag have given a detailed description of the splendor of the Vijayanagara court and the luxurious lifestyle of the nobles.

Land revenue was the main source of income. It was levied according to the fertility of the land.

Architecture

The capital of the empire was Hampi. It had beautiful buildings, especially temples. The Vittalaswami Temple, The Virupaksha Temple are fine specimens of temple architecture.

The Vijayanagara empire declined after the Battle of Talikota. The rulers were despots and there were several wars of succession.

Home assignment - MCQ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

State True or False 1, 2, 3.

Fill in the blanks 1, 2, 3