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

15/7/24

Subject:- History and Civics

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Chapter 5 The Delhi Sultanate II

Good Morning Students!

In the previous chapter we had studied about the Slave dynasty and the Khalji dynasty. The last ruler of the Khalji dynasty was defeated by Ghiyas-ud-din Tughluq who laid the foundation of this new dynasty. He was an efficient military commander, who suppressed rebellions and consolidated the Sultanate. He dealt strongly against the Mongol invasions. He took a number of welfare measures like constructing dams, canals. He reduced the land revenue to $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the gross produce. Ghiyas-ud-din built the city of Tughluqabad and was a patron of learning.

Ghiyas-ud-din was succeeded by his son Juna Khan who took the title of Muhammad-bin Tughluq. He was a very powerful ruler. Ibn Batuta tells us that the Sultan had great ideas but he could not implement them properly. Let us read about some of Muhammad-bin-Tughluq's administrative reforms that proved to be impractical and made him unpopular.

1. Taxation in the doab: Muhammad wanted to expand his empire through conquests. This meant a large army and increased resources to pay that army.

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So he raised the land tax in the doab region. But the region was facing a severe famine during this period. To raise taxes at such a time was a mistake. Many peasants abandoned their land. Some of them revolted. Ultimately, the Sultan had to withdraw his orders.

2. Transfer of Capital :- Muhammad-bin Tughluq decided to shift the capital of his empire from Delhi to Devagiri, which he renamed Daulatabad. He did it for the following reasons
- a) The Sultan felt that he would be able to control and administer the empire better from Daulatabad since it was located in the centre of the empire.
 - b) The Mongols were a constant threat to Delhi. Daulatabad seemed more safe from attacks.

Muhammad-bin Tughluq ordered the entire population of Delhi to move to Daulatabad. The Sultan soon realized that it was impossible to keep a watch on the northern frontiers from Daulatabad. So he ordered a re-shift of capital. The people who earlier left Delhi had to come back to the place. The failure of this experiment affected the prestige of the empire.

In 1329, Muhammad-bin-Tughluq introduced a token currency. It is said that there was worldwide shortage of silver, so

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the Sultan issued token coins of brass and copper for day-to-day use. Further, they could be exchanged for silver coins, at any time from the royal treasury. But Muhammad failed to check the illegal minting of coins. The design of the coins was simple enough for ordinary craftspeople to copy. So the kingdom was flooded with forged coins. Trade suffered and the treasury became empty.

Muhammad Bin Tughluq had planned for conquest of Khurasan in Central Asia. He had raised a large army. But he abandoned the expedition. He sent an army to the Kangra region. After annexing it, the army proceeded towards Tibet. Due to heavy rainfall in this mountainous region there was heavy casualty.

Let us study about the successor of Muhammad-Bin-Tughluq — Firoz Shah Tughluq. He tried to please the Ulemas. Firoz's reign witnessed numerous rebellions. Because of the welfare works he had done for people, Firoz is often called a 'reformer king'. He built many canals, wells, hospitals and resthouses. He established new towns and built many educational institutions.

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1. Ghiyas-us-din Tughluq
2. Daulatabad.
3. Copper and Bronze

4. Muhammad Bin Tughluq
5. Firoz Tughluq