

CLASS - VII

Subject Sst (History) Chapter - 2 New Kings and Kingdoms

The three most important kingdoms of this period were the Gurjara-Pratihara, the Rashtrakutas and the Palas.

The Gurjara-Pratihara (A.D. 725-1018)

In A.D. 725 the Gurjara-Pratiharas rose to power in the area of Avanti or Rajasthan and Gujarat under Nagabhata. He ruled from 725 A.D. to 750 A.D. In 738 A.D. He defeated the Arab Muslims of Sindh and pushed them back. Bhoja-I was the most famous ruler of this dynasty. He ruled from A.D. 836 to A.D. 885. He was a devotee of Lord Vishnu and adopted the title of Adivaraha. King Bhoja was succeeded by his son, Mahendrapala-I, who ruled from 885 A.D. to 908 AD. He extended his empire over Magadha and North-Bengal. The last Pratihara ruler was Rajyapala.

The Rashtrakutas

The Rashtrakutas built a huge empire which included large parts of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. The founder of this dynasty was Dantidurga. Rashtrakutas had their first capital at Latal Uru in Maharashtra. The Rashtrakutas were well known for patronizing art and architecture. Krishna I built the famous Kailasa Temple in the Ellora Caves.

The Palas

The Palas Empire was established by Gopala around 750 CE. His kingdom extended over the states

of present day Bengal, Bihar, parts of Orissa and Nepal. The Pala dynasty expanded their political boundaries under Dharmapala and his Devapala.

The Rajputs

The famous Rajput dynasties were the Gahadhavalas of Kannauj, the Paramaras of Malwa, the Chandellas of Bundelkhand, and the Chahamanas of Ajmer. Prithviraj Chauhan was the most famous ruler of the Chahamana dynasty. The events of Prithviraj's reign have been described in Prithviraj Raso, composed by his court poet and friend, Chand Bardai.

The Cholas

The Cholas built the strongest empire in India between AD 800 - AD 1200. Their capital was Tanjore. The Chola dynasty was founded by Vijayalaya. He ruled over the region to the north of River Kaveri. It was Rajaraja Chola and Rajendra Chola who revived the empire and made the Cholas the greatest power in South India.

The Turkish Invasions

Mahmud of Ghazni

The first of these invaders was Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni from Afghanistan. He ruled from 997 to 1030. He extended his control over parts of Central Asia, Iran and the north-western part of the sub-continent. He mainly attacked the temple town in northern India. This was because, he had heard that there was much gold and jewellery kept in the big temple of India.

Muhammad of Ghazni

Muhammad of Ghazni was a governor of the Ghazni Dynasty of Ghazni, a province that lay to the west of Ghazni. Muhammad of Ghazni took over Ghazni in 1160 CE. He attacked Multan first in 1175 CE. He then conquered Punjab and Sind. In 1191 CE he made a move to conquer Delhi and marched towards it with his army. He first took Bhatinda. A fierce battle was fought between the armies of Muhammad of Ghazni and Prithviraj Chauhan which came to be known as the first battle of Tarain. The Rajput army defeated the Muslim army.

HOME WORK

Note Learn and write these question answers.

Ques- Answer these questions

- (i) Write a short note on Bhoja - 1
- (ii) Name the regions where the Rashtrakutas built a huge empire.
- (iii) Who adopted the title of Adivardha?
- (iv) Who established the Palas empire?
- (v) Who built the famous Kailasa Temple in the Ellora Cave?
- (vi) Why Mahmud Ghazni attacked on temple town in northern India?

Ques- Write name the following

- (i) An official responsible for ensuring law and order in town - Kotwal

(ii) Female temple dancers dedicated to the service of God
Devdasis

(iii) Representation of a person family or groups descent - Genealogy

(iv) A long journey undertaken for a specific purpose - Expedition

Ques 3. State true or false

(i) The Elephanta Caves near Mumbai were made by the Palas

(ii) Mahmud of Ghazni was the first sultan of the Ghaznavi Dynasty of Afghanistan.

(iii) The Chola built the strongest empire in India between AD 800 - AD 1200.

Ques 4. Choose the correct option.

(i) The Rashtrakuta dynasty was founded by
(a) Mayursharman (b) Harischandra (c) Dantidurga (d) Vijayalaya

(ii) The capital of Cholas was -
(a) Lattal Uru (b) Tanjore (c) Kannauj (d) Nagarko