

# **History of Rajasthan**

**Rudra Prakash Sharma**

**RAS 2016- 39<sup>th</sup> Rank**

**RAS 2013 -244<sup>th</sup> Rank**

# History of Chauhans in Rajasthan

## Prithviraj 3<sup>rd</sup> (1177-1192 AD)

Prithviraja-Prabandha (15th century) states that after capturing Ajmer, Muhammad occupied Prithviraj's court. He housed Prithviraj in a building facing this court. One day, Prithviraj asked his minister Pratapasimha for his bow-and-arrows to kill Muhammad. The treacherous minister supplied him the bow-and-arrows, but secretly informed Muhammad of his plan. As a result, Muhammad did not sit at his usual place, and instead kept a statue there. Prithviraj fired an arrow at the statue, mistaking it for Muhammad. As a punishment, Muhammad had him cast into a pit and Stoned to death

- According to Prabandha-Chintamani by the 14th century Jain scholar Merutunga, Muhammad was enraged when he saw paintings depicting Muslims being killed by pigs in the Chahamana gallery. He then abandoned his plan to let Prithviraj live as a vassal, and ordered his beheading
- Most medieval sources state that Prithviraj was taken to the Chahamana capital Ajmer, where Muhammad planned to reignstate him as a Ghurid Vassal.
- Sometime later, Prithviraj rebelled against Muhammad, and was killed for treason.
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- This is corroborated by numismatic evidence: some coins issued by Prithviraj from the Delhi mint feature his own name as well as the name of Muhammad on the reverse. After Prithviraj's death, Muhammad installed the Chahamanas prince Govindaraja on the throne of Ajmer, which further supports this theory.
- The war of Tarain is mentioned in detail in Prithviraj Raso of Chandar Bardai, Tajul Masir of Hasan Nijami & Tabkat e Nasiri of Siraj
- **Prithviraja Vijaya** ("Prithviraja's Victory") is a Sanskrit Epic on the life of the Indian Prithviraj Chauhan 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is believed to have been composed around 1191-1192 AD by Jayanaka, a Kashmiri poet-historian in the court of Prithviraja.

**Hammira Mahakavya** is a 15th-century Indian Sanskrit epic poem written by the Jain scholar **Nayachandra Suri**.



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