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Lesson - s The Deccan Sultanates

LESSON 7 OF 7

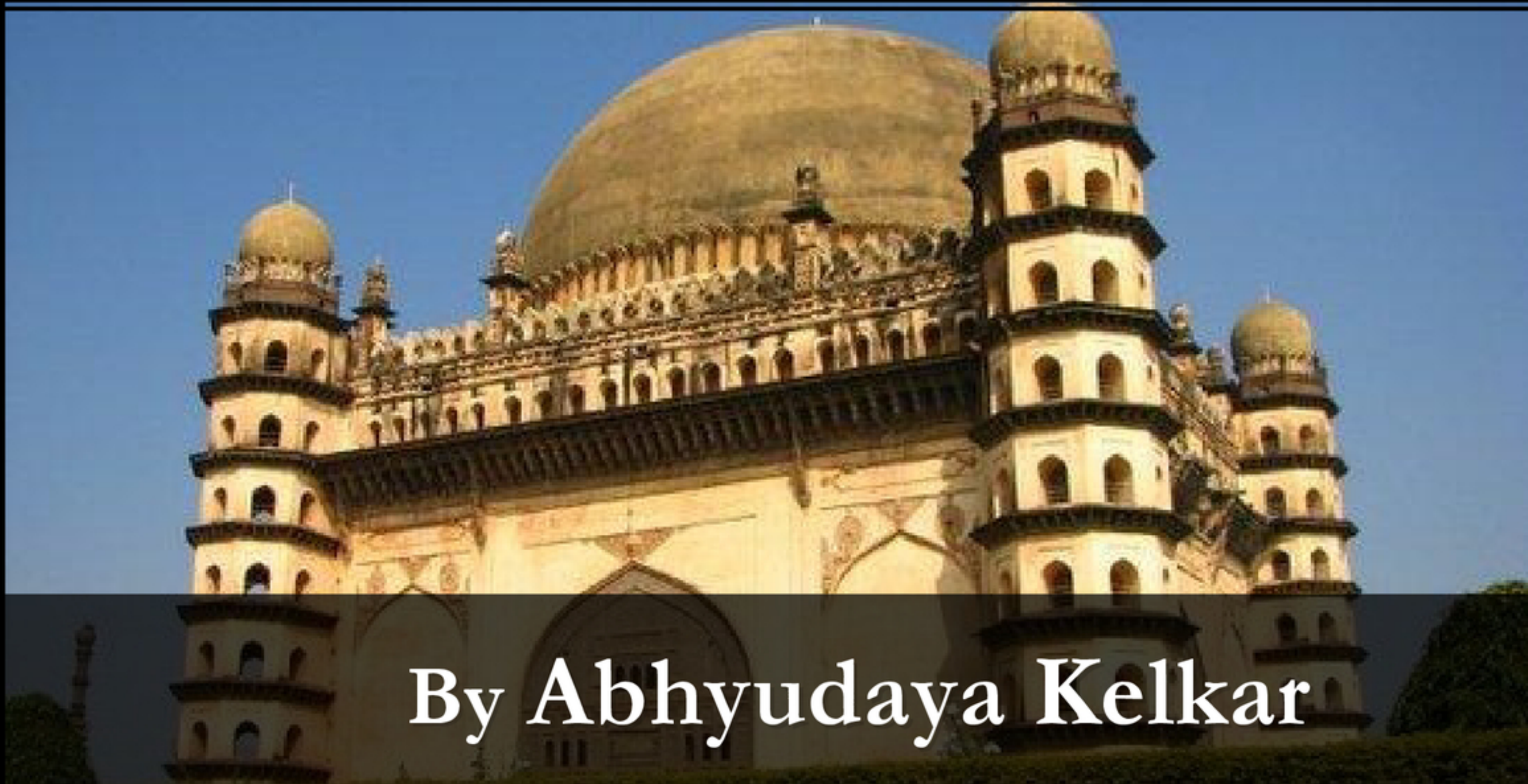


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Lesson - 5

THE DECCAN SULTANATES



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Mahmud Shah Bahmani II

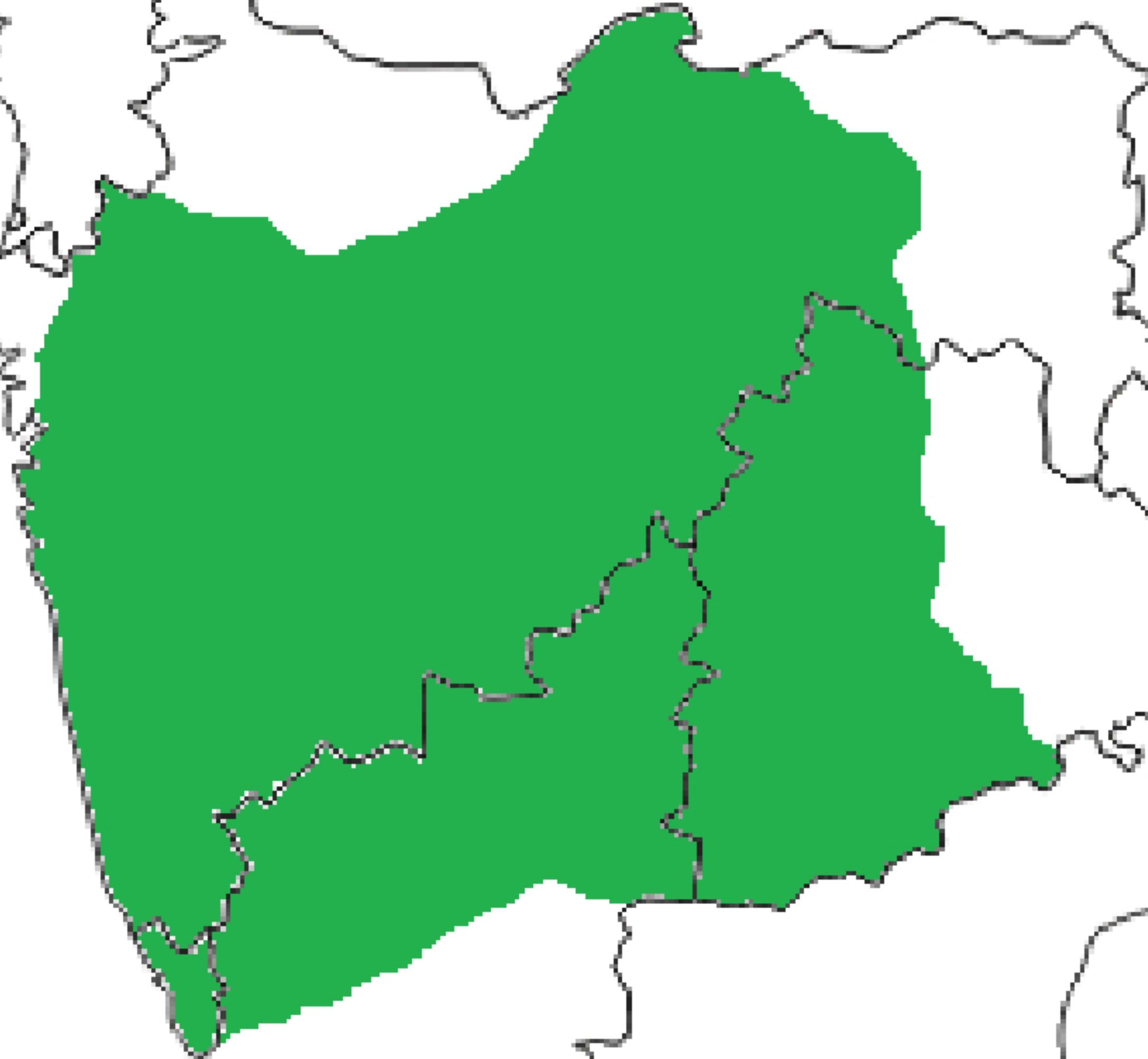
- He ascended the throne of the declining Bahmani Sultanate in 1482.
- He was barely 12 years old when he became a Sultan.
- By the time he became 20, the Sultanate started splitting up into independent 'Deccan Sultanates'.
- In 1490, the governors of Ahmednagar, Bijapur and Berar declared their independence giving rise to three independent sultanates (discussed later).
- Meanwhile, a Georgian Shia Muslim, Qasim Barid came under the service of the Bahmanis and became very powerful.
- With the splitting away of the three sultanates, the declined Bahmani sultanate was easily brought by him under his control. At this time, Bidar was its capital.
- He died in 1504 and was succeeded by Amir Barid I, who too was the de facto ruler of the Bahmani Sultanate.

Barid-Shahi of Bidar

- In 1518, another Amir, Quli Qutub Mulk, declared independence creating the Golconda Sultanate.
- Mahmud Shah died the same year in 1518.
- His successor, Ahmad Shah Bahmani II, too was a puppet in the hands of Amir Barid I.
- Ahmad Shah died in 1520 and there were three more puppet sultans within seven years until 1527, when Amir Barid I ended the almost two centuries old Bahmani Sultanate, thus establishing Barid Shahi Dynasty of Bidar.
- It was the smallest of the five Deccan Sultanates.
- Amir Barid I died in 1542 and was succeeded by Ali Barid Shah.
- Ali was a patron of art and made Bidar an important cultural centre.
- Ali participated in the Battle of Talikota in 1565, against Vijayanagar.

BAHMANI SULTANATE

DECCAN SULTANATES



Nizam-Shahi of Ahmednagar

- Hasan Bahri was made the Prime Minister (Nizam) of Bahmani Sultanate after Mahmud Gawan, in 1481.
- His son, Ahmad, was made the governor of Daulatabad region.
- He declared independence in 1490 and became 'Malik Ahmad Nizam Shah'.
- He made Ahmadnagar his capital and started the 'Nizam-shahi Dynasty'.
- The year of his death is still disputed. It was either 1508 or 1509.
- His successor, Burhan Nizam Shah I, was a minor at the time of his coronation.
- Burhan became a Shia.
- He had an long and stable reign of 43/45 years before he either died in 1553 or 1555.
- He was succeeded by Hussain Nizam Shah, who participated in the Battle of Talikota against Vijayanagar.
- Throughout this time, the Sultanate fought the Adilshahis of Bijapur.

Adil-Shahi of Bijapur

- Bijapur was the most powerful among the five Deccan Sultanates. It had an expansionist policy since its inception.
- Yusuf Adil Shah was from Persia, probably a Turkmen.
- He was appointed the governor of Vijayapur (Bijapur) by Bahmanis.
- He declared independence in 1490 thus founding the Adilshahi Dynasty of Bijapur.
- During his reign, in 1510, Portuguese snatched away Goa from him.
- He was a musician, scholar and theologian and made Bijapur a noteworthy cultural centre.
- He died in 1511 and was succeeded by his minor son, Ismail.
- Ismail threw off the control of his regent Kamal Khan and his son Ismail Khan and managed the sultanate well.
- He died in 1534 and was succeeded by his minor son Mallu Adil Shah, who too died soon and was followed by Ibrahim Adil Shah I, his brother.

Adil-Shahi of Bijapur

- Throughout this period, the Maratha wife of Yusuf Adil Shah, Punji Khatun, remained a key political figure.
- Also, the Habshis/ African slaves (Afaqi) were important part of the fighting forces.
- Ibrahim Adil Shah I curbed the power of Afaqis and started recruiting Marathas on a large scale. Marathi therefore started gaining more influence.
- He became a Sunni.
- He lost Solapur and Kalyani (Basavakalyan) to the Nizamshahs but defeated Baridshahs and the Qutubshahs of Golconda.
- He died in 1558 and was succeeded by Ali Adil Shah I.
- Ali reversed the policies of Ibrahim and became a Shia and restored the Afaqis.
- Ali was very close to Aliya Rama Raya, the de facto ruler of Vijayanagar.
- He participated in the Battle of Talikota in 1565.

Qutb-Shahi of Golconda

- Quli Qutb Shah declared his independence in 1518 and established the Qutubshahi Dynasty of Golconda.
- Quli Qutub was a Turkmen from northwestern Persia, who reached Bahmanis via Delhi.
- He fought against Vijayanagara and Gajapatis of Odisha and faced reverses.
- He was also defeated by the Adilshah of Bijapur.
- He was assassinated in 1543 by his son, Jamsheed Quli Qutub Shah.
- Jamsheed blinded his elder brother, killed one of the younger brothers.
- His another brother, Ibrahim, managed to escape to Vijayanagar, when he got asylum from Aliya Rama Raya, the de facto ruler of that empire.
- Ibrahim remained in Vijayanagar for a long time.
- In the meantime, Jamsheed died in 1550 and was succeeded by his minor son Subhan Quli Qutub Shah.

Qutb-Shahi of Golconda

- In the same year, Ibrahim returned to Golconda with the help of Vijayanagar and deposed Subhan Quli Qutub.
- Thus, Ibrahim became Qutubshah in 1550 with the aid of Aliya Rama Raya.
- Subhan was probably murdered.
- Ibrahim patronized art and literature. Telugu prospered under his reign.
- Ibrahim had cordial relations with Aliya Rama Raya and the Vijayanagar.
- Surprisingly, he forgot all the favour done by Rama Raya and fought against him in Talikota in 1565.

Next: Lesson - 6

THE TULUVA DYNASTY



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