

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Tracing Changes through A thousand Years

Q1. What are the Literary Sources of History of Medieval India?

Ans.

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Q2. In what ways has the meaning of the term "Hindustan" changed over the centuries?

Ans.

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Q1. What are the Literary Sources of History of Medieval India?

Ans. Literary Sources of History of Medieval India are:

- i. Biography – It is an account of someone's life written by someone else. Some important biographies of medieval period are Prithviraj Raso by Chandbardai, Akbarnama by Abu Fazal.
- ii. Autobiography – It is a self-written account of the life of oneself. Important autobiographies of medieval period are Futuhat-I-Firoz by Firozshah Tughlaq, Baburnama by Babur and Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri by Jahangir.
- iii. Travelogue – It is written account about the places visited by or experiences of a traveller. Example: Al-beruni wrote Tahqiq-i-hind, Ibn Batuta wrote Rihla.
- iv. Chronicle – It is a factual written account of important or historical events in the order of their occurrence. Example: Rajtarangini by Kalhan, Tughluqnama by Amir Khusrau.

Q2. In what ways has the meaning of the term "Hindustan" changed over the centuries?

Ans. Meaning of the term 'Hindustan' changed over the centuries.

- i. In the thirteenth century by Minhaj-i-Siraj, a chronicler who wrote in Persian, he meant the areas of Punjab, Haryana and the lands between the Ganga and Yamuna. He used the term in a political sense for lands that were a part of the dominions of the Delhi Sultan. The areas included in this term shifted with the extent of the Sultanate but the term never included south India.
- ii. In fourteenth-century poet Amir Khusrau used the word "Hind".
- iii. In the early sixteenth century while using this term meant the geography, the fauna and the culture of the inhabitants of the subcontinent.
- iv. While the idea of a geographical and cultural entity like "India" did exist, the term "Hindustan" did not carry the political and national meanings which we associate with it today.