

Al-Biruni's Description of the Caste System:

- Al-Biruni tried to explain the caste system by looking for parallels in other societies.
- He suggested that social divisions were not unique to India .
 - He pointed out that within Islam all men were considered equal, differing only in their observance of piety.
- He disapproved the notion of pollution.
- He remarked that everything that falls into a state of impurity strives and succeeds in regaining its original condition of purity.
- He was appointed as the qazi or judge of Delhi in 1333.
- In 1342 he went to China as the Sultan's envoy to the Mongol ruler.
- He went to Malabar Coast through central India and later to Sri Lanka
- According to him it took 40 days to travel from Multan to Delhi and 50 days from Sindh to Delhi, 40 days from Daulatabad to Delhi, Gwalior to Delhi 10 days.