

CLASS:--12TH, SUB- HISTORY.

**DATE:-28/05/20**

### **AL-BIRUNI'S DESCRIPTION OF THE CAST SYSTEM:-**

- **AL- BIRUNI** tried to explain the cast system by looking for parallels in other societies.
- He noted that in ancient Persia, four social categories were recognized.
- 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 accepted the BRAHMANICAL descriptions of the cast system but disapproved of the notion of population.
- He remarked that everything that falls into a state of impurity strives and succeeds in regaining its original condition of purity.
- The conception of social pollution intrinsic to the cast system, was according to him, contrary to the laws of nature.
- **AL-BIRUNI'S DESCRIPTION** of the cast system was deeply influenced by his study of **NORMATIVE SANSKRIT**.

### **IBN-- BATTUTA'S RIHLA:-**

- **IBN-BATTUTA** was an inveterate traveller who spent several years traveling through North- Africa ,west Asia and part of Central Asia .the Indian subcontinent and China, before returning to his stories be recorded.

### **An EARLY GLOBE-TROTTER.**

- **IBN-BATTUTA** was a Moroccan traveler. He was born in a family known for their expertise in Islamic religious law or shari' a .

- **IBN-BATTUTA'S** book of travels called '**RIHLA**' written in Arabic, provides extremely rich and interesting details about the social and cultural life in the subcontinent in the 14th century.
- **Battuta** reached **SINDH** in **1333** traveling through central Asia.
- **MUHAMMAD-BIN-TUGLAQ**, the sultan of Delhi , was impressed by his scholarship appointed him the **QAZI** or **JUDGE OF DELHI**.
- In **1342**, he was sent to proceed to **CHINA** as the sultan's envoy to the **MONGOL** ruler.