Vidya Bhawan Balika Vidyapith, LKR.

Class-7th, Sub. -Social Science, Date-14-04-2021

Ch1. History-When, Where and How

Literary Sources

The literary sources are classified into indigenous and foreign writings covering subjects such as religion, economics, politics, culture etc.

Autobiographies and Biographies

Biographies such as Prithviraj Raso by Chand Bardai, Humayun Nama by Gulbadan Begum and autobiographies such as Babur's Baburnama in Turkish and Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri in Persian were written during this period. The Baburnama reveals the detailed attention Babur paid to the flora and fauna of Hindustan while Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri provides an attractive sight into the court politics and details of emperor's personal life. Firoz Shah Tughlaq wrote his autobiography known as Futuhat-i-Firoz Shahi.

Court Chronicles

Several scholars wrote about history of dynasties of the period known as court chroniclestwo examples of such books are Abd al-Quadir Badauni's Muntakhab-ul-Tawarikh or Selection of Chronicles, a work in three volumes which deals with the reign of Babur, Humayun and Akbar. Barani's Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi describes the history of Delhi Sultanate. The Rajtarangini written by Kalhana in the 11th century deals the history of rulers of Kashmir.

Historians often travelled with the ruler and recorded the events. Abul Fazl's Akbarnama is a fine example of such a work. It's third volume, Ain-i-Akbari comprises Akbar's mode of governance and statistical reports of his empire.

Writing of foreign travellers

Many foreign travellers have visited India. Ibn Battuta, the traveller and scholar from Morocco, visited India during the rule of the Tughlaqs and wrote Rihla(travels), which tells us about the geography of India.

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