

BA HISTORY SUBSIDIARY  
SEMESTER III  
Paper 3: Society and Culture in Medieval India

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Credit: 04

**UNIT I**  
**ROYALTY, COURT AND ELITE CULTURE**

1. Courtly ceremonies and etiquettes under the Sultans, Vijayanagar kings and the Mughals
2. Architecture and Paintings
3. Court histories and Bardic literature
4. Women in Medieval Courts and Politics

**UNIT II**  
**RELIGIOUS IDENTITIES AND CULTURAL REPRESENTATIONS**

1. Medieval Islamic Views of India and Hindus
2. Representations of Muslims in Sanskrit and vernacular Literature
3. The process of Islamisation and Hinduisation in medieval India; Islamic culture in Indian environment
4. The growth of 'Composite Culture', religious 'syncretism': Akbar's world view and Dara Shikoh's synthesis, *Sulh-i-Kul* and *Wahdat ul Wujud*

**UNIT III**  
**SUFI AND BHAKTI MOVEMENTS**

1. Growth of Sufi silsilas, sufis and the state, sufi shrines and their socio-political role
2. Nathpanti movement; growth of *Nirguni* monotheistic and *Saguni* bhakti, Bhaktas and the medieval state
3. Women Bhaktas and the nature of their devotion
4. Nature of Bhakti-Sufi Interaction

**UNIT IV**  
**GROWTH OF REGIONAL LITERARY CULTURES**

1. Bhakti based regional literary cultures
2. *Malfiz* literature and Sufi biographies
3. Hindavi-Sufi romance narratives
4. Rise and growth of Urdu language

**ReadingList**

1. Harbans Mukhia, *The Mughals Of India*, Blackwell Publishing, 2005
2. Irfan Habib, *Akbar and His India*, Delhi: OUP, 1997
3. -----, *Religion in Indian History*, New Delhi: Tulika Books, 2007
4. Satish Chandra, *Essays on Medieval Indian History*, Delhi: OUP, 2003

5. M. Athar Ali, *Mughal India: Studies in Polity, Ideas, Society and Culture*, Delhi: OUP, 2006
6. Milo Cleveland Beach, *Mughal and Rajput Painting*, Cambridge, 1992
7. S.P. Verma, *Mughal Painters and Their Work*, New Delhi: OUP, 1994
8. Aziz Ahmad, *Intellectual History of Islam in India*, 1969
9. -----, *Islamic Culture in Indian Environment*, 1964
10. Richard M Eaton, *Sufis of Bijapur, Social Role of Sufis in Medieval India*, 1978
11. -----, *The Rise of Islam and the Bengal Frontier, 1204-1760*, 1993
12. -----, *Essays on Islam and Indian History*, 2000
13. -----, ed., *India's Islamic Traditions 711-1750*, New Delhi: OUP, 2006
14. David Gilmartin and Bruce B Lawrence eds; *Beyond Turk and Hindu; Religious Identities in Islamicate*, South Asia, 2002
15. Pushpa Prasad, *Sanskrit Inscriptions of Delhi Sultanate*, New Delhi: OUP, 1990
16. Sheldon Pollock, ed., *Literary Cultures in History: Reconstructions from South Asia*, Delhi: OUP, 2003
17. Carl W. Ernst, *Eternal Garden: Mysticism, History and Politics at a South Asian Sufi Centre*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2004
18. Mohammad Habib, *Politics and Society During the early Medieval Period (Collected Works of Mohammad Habib, 2Vols. K.A Nizami, ed., 1974*
19. Muzaffar Alam, *The Languages of Political Islam in India 1200-1800*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004
20. Charlotte Vaudeville, *A Weaver Named Kabir*, Delhi: OUP, 1993
21. David N. Lorenzen, ed., *Bhakti Religion in North India: Community Identity and Political Action*, Delhi: Manohar, 1996
22. David N. Lorenzen, ed., *Religious Movements in South Asia 600-1800*, Delhi: OUP, 2004
23. Karine Schomer and W.H McLeod, eds., *The Sants: Studies in a Devotional Tradition of India, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidas, 1987*
24. John Stratton Hawley, *Three Bhakti Voices*, Delhi: OUP, 2005
25. W.H. Mcleod, *The Evolution of Sikh Community*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn., Delhi: OUP, 1996
26. Catherine B Asher and Cynthia Talbot, *India Before Europe*, Cambridge: CUP, 2006
27. B.D Chattopadhyaya, *Representing the Other? Sanskrit Sources and the Muslims, Eighth to the Fourteenth Centuries*, Delhi: Manohar, 1998
28. Romila Thapar, Somnath, *The Many Voices of a History*, Delhi: Penguin, 2004

