

MEDIAEVAL INDIA UNDER MUSLIM KINGS

VOLUME II

THE RISE AND FALL OF
THE GHAZNAWIDS

By

S. M. JAFFAR

Author of: "*Education in Muslim India,*"
"*Some Cultural Aspects of Muslim
Rule in India,*" "*The Mughal
Empire from Babar to
Aurangzeb,*"
etc

FIRST EDITION 1940

PESHAWAR CITY
(INDIA)

S. MUHAMMAD SADIQ KHAN
KISSA KHANI

Published by S
Khudadad St

Copyright
All rights of reproduction and
translation reserved by the author

Printed at The Empire (Elec) Press, Govt Printers,
Sadar Road, Peshawar (N W F P)

Medieval India Under Muslim Kings

DEDICATED
WITH PROFOUND LOVE
AND RESPECT
TO
SIR SHAFAT AHMAD KHAN, Kt.,
M A, LITT D, F R HIS SOC, ETC,
HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY,
UNIVERSITY OF ALLAHABAD, A VETERAN
HISTORIAN WHOSE ACTIVE INTEREST IN
THE CAUSE OF INDIAN HISTORY HAS
LED TO THE RISE AND GROWTH OF THE
MODERN SCHOOL OF INDIAN HISTORY
AND THE
INDIAN HISTORY
CONGRESS.

Medieval India Under Muslim Kings

PREFACE

"Among the finest products of the literary activity of the Indian Muhammadans has been their historical literature" said the late Sir Thomas Arnold, and there is no doubt that history was a subject in which the Musalmāns excelled and which they could legitimately claim as their own. The products of their pen are indeed marvels of mediæval history. The evidence contained in the huge mass of historical literature that has come down to us, if diligently tapped and carefully sifted, would have enabled modern Muslim scholars of India to bring out a complete and comprehensive history of Indo-Muslim Rule. But the subject has been woefully neglected by them, so much so that there are very few books on the Muslim Period of Indian history written by modern Muslim writers. It is this neglect, more than anything else, that is responsible for the growing bulk of anti-Islāmic literature and the ever-increasing circulation of wild notions about Islām and Muslim Rule in India. History books, written with ulterior motives, for personal gains, etc., and saturated through and through with extraneous influences, positively hostile to Islāmic culture, are taught in our schools and colleges, and the inevitable result is that on the one hand the sons of Islām have begun to feel ashamed of the acts of their ancestors and on the other hand the gulf between the major communities of India—Hindūs and Muslims—has been considerably widened. In short, misrepresentation of Islām and Muslim Rule in India has gone afar, and no organized literary effort has so far been launched to counteract the anti-Islāmic propaganda. Best brains being busy elsewhere, I took it upon myself to rewrite the history of Muslim Rule in India on what I believe to be correct lines. The warm welcome which greeted my published works led me to undertake the onerous task notwithstanding the numerous difficulties that confronted me at every stage—a task which, I dare say, could be more aptly and advantageously undertaken and accomplished by a company of competent scholars under the patronage of such promi-

ne it patrons of literature as the Muslim Princes of Indian States

For the preparation of this volume I have consulted a large number of standard works, mediæval as well as modern, and availed myself of the latest researches on the period covered by this volume. Among many other works, I have made use of Dr M Nâzım's scholarly monograph on *Mahmūd of Ghazna*, embodying minute researches on the life and times of that much-maligned monarch, and of Professor S H Hodivāli's *Studies in Indo-Muslim History*, throwing a flood of light on a number of obscure names and passages in the original MSS, though I have not accepted their conclusions unreservedly. My grateful acknowledgments are due to both these all those scholars whose monumental works I have drawn upon for information. In the presentation of facts I have exercised the utmost care and tried to make sure that nothing important is omitted. In describing the character of Muslim Kings and other individuals of eminence and assessing their achievements, I have been scrupulously careful. While giving them credit for the constructive work done by them, I have constantly kept before me the educative value of history and hence pointed out their mistakes and criticised their acts and administrations without any hesitation. With all my solicitude, I must point out, there are books to which I have had no access and hence the volume in hand may not be as exhaustive as I intended it to be. Should it be found to have filled the long-felt want to some appreciable extent, I shall deem myself amply rewarded. Lest the work that I have undertaken should suffer if continued by me unaided and alone amidst a number of difficulties, I beg to invite the constructive criticism of conscientious scholars and shall feel grateful to them if they co-operate with me to enhance the usefulness of the work. It will be a real service to the cause of Indian history.

Peshawar City,
10th May, 1940.

S M. JAFFAR

	CONTENTS	
PREFACE	viii
ABBREVIATIONS	xv
CHAPTER I	

THE EARLY GHĀZNAWIDS

FROM ALPTIGIN TO SUBUKTIGIN

Introductory — Alptigin — Bilkatigin and Piritigin — Subuktigin — Conquest of Bušt and Qusdār—Rise of Afghāns — Indo-Afghān Alliance—Recognition of Afghān Independence—Jaipāl's invasion of Ghaznān and defeat—His breach of faith and punishment — Importance of Subuktigin's victory — Relations with the Sāmānid overlord—Character and estimate of Subuktigin—Retrospect . pp 1—23.

CHAPTER II

SULTAN MAHMUD THE GREAT—I

CONQUESTS IN CENTRAL ASIA

Introductory — Early life of Mahmūd — Struggle for Succession — Relations with Sāmānids — Dealings with Khāns of Turkistān—Conquest of Gharshistān—Rise of Saljūqs — Conquest of Sīstān — Assumption of title of "Sultān"—Conquest of Ghūr—Reduction of Qusdār—Conquest of the valleys of Nūr and Qirāt—Expedition against Afghāns—Relations with Ziyārids and the rulers of Mekkān —Conquest of Ray, Hamadān and Isfahān . pp 24—48.

THE GHAZNAWIDS

CHAPTER III

SULTAN MAHMUD THE GREAT -II

INVASIONS OF INDIA

Introductory — (1) Towns of Khyber Pass — (2) Peshāwar — (3) Bhātīya — (4) Multān — (5) Bhātīya— (6) Punjāb— Nagarkot — (7) Narayan or Narāyanpur — (8) Multān—(9) Thānesar—(10) Nandāna—(11) Kashmīr—(12) Baran—(13) Kanauj and Kālinjar — (14) Punjāb— (15) Gwalior and Kālinjar — (16) Somnāth — (17) The islands of the Indus
pp 49-83

CHAPTER IV

SULTAN MAHMUD THE GREAT—III

MOTIVES & RESULTS OF INDIAN INVASIONS

Introductory — Motives Political factors — Economic factors—Religious forces—Were Indian Invasions *Jihād's*? — Propagation of Islām?—Extirpation of Idolatry?—Conquest or territorial annexations? — The inspiring motive— Results and effects of Indian Invasions
pp 84-108

CHAPTER V

SULTAN MAHMUD THE GREAT —IV

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF HIS REIGN

Introductory—Mahmūd's love of learning — His patronage of letters — Renaissance of Persian literature — Albertūnī — Al-'Utbī — Others — Number of poets at the Ghaznawid Court—Firdausī—'Unsarī—Other poets—Criticism of poetry —Intellectual institutions—Architecture—Public Works— Ghaznīn Past and Present — Tombs of Subuktgīn, Mahmūd and three other kings — Two Towers of Victory — Shrines
pp 109-28

CHAPTER VI

SULTAN MAHMUD THE GREAT — V

SOME LEGENDS ABOUT HIM

Introductory — Legend of Firdausī (1) Information contradictory — (2) Sources secondary and devoid of authority — (3) Was Firdausī appointed by Mahmūd to write the *Shāh-nāmah*? — (4) Apocryphal authorship of the *Shāh-nāmah* — The Satire — Charge of bastardy — Mahmūd and *Ayāz* — The Idol of Somnāth — Story of two Dābīsh-līms. . . . pp 129-160

CHAPTER VII

SULTAN MAHMUD THE GREAT — VI

CLOSING DAYS, CHARACTER AND ESTIMATE

Introductory — His illness and death — Review of riches and expression of sorrow — Beginning of the end — Mahmūd's character — His personal appearance — His virtues — His religious beliefs and piety — As a soldier and a general — As a king — Mahmūd's weaknesses — His estimate pp 161-182

CHAPTER VIII

SULTAN MAS'UD I

Introductory — The war of succession — Release and reinstatement of Mairmandī — Execution of Hasanak — Appointment of new *Wasīr* — Conquest of Mokrān and Kirmān — Rebellions of 'Alā-ud Daulah and Majd-ud-Daulah — Recovery and loss of Khwārizm — Jurjān and Tabaristān — Condition of India — Tilak's rise — Capture of Hānsī and Soupat — Campaign against *Saljuqs* — Flight to India — The *Wazīrāt* department under Mas'ūd — Patronage of learning and promotion of education — Character and estimate of Mas'ūd pp. 183-212

CHAPTER IX

SULTAN MAUDUD & HIS SUCCESSORS

Maudūd — Appointment of *Wazīrs* and Governor of the Punjab — Recovery of Transoxiana — Condition of India — Campaign against the Saljūqs — Abū Ja'far Ma'sūd II — Abul Hasan 'Alī — 'Abdur Rashīd — Tughral 'the Ingrate' — Farrukhzād — Ibrāhīm Mas'ūd III — Sherzād and Arslān Shāh — Bahrām Shāh — Rebellion of Indian Governor — War with Ghūrīd Mahks — Progress of learning and education — Khusrau Shāh — Khusrau Malik . pp 213 236

CHAPTER X

THE GHAZNAWID GOVERNMENT

Introductory — The nature and functions of government — Toleration — Absence of the Law of Succession — The Central Government — *Diwān-i-Wizārat* — *Diwān-i-'Arz* — The Army — Gradation of army officers — *Diwān-i-Risālat* — *Diwān-i-Shughl-i-Ishrāf-i-Mamlukat* — *Diwān-i-Wikālat* — *Masālin* — *Diwān-i-Muktasib* — *Diwān-i-Mumlikat-i-Khās* — *Sāhib-i-Barid* — *Khāsan* — Provincial Government — Administration of cities — Government Service — How India was governed — Revenue System — Taxes and other sources of revenue — Famine Relief — Cultural Progress pp. 237-64.

INDEX

pp 265 ff

ABBREVIATIONS

(These abbreviations are used only in respect of works which have been frequently cited in this volume. Works rarely referred to are excluded from this list, for their names and those of their authors are given in full in the foot-notes at their proper places)

A. A.	<i>Al-Mukhtasar fī Akhbār-al-Bashar</i> (Cairo edition), by Abul Fida
A. G. I.	<i>Ancient Geography of India</i> , by A. Cunningham
A. S. I.	<i>Archæological Survey of India</i> . (Annual Reports)
B. I. S.	<i>Bibliotheca Indica Series of R A S B</i>
B. M.	British Museum
C. H. I.	<i>Cambridge History of India, The</i> , Volume III, edited by Sir W. Haig.
C. G. K.	<i>Coins of Ghazni Kings</i> , by E. Thomas
C. M.	<i>Chahār Maqāla</i> , by Nizāmī-al-'Arṭzī al Samarqandī, edited by Maulvī Ghulām Muhammad Abūharī
C. O. C.	<i>Collection of Oriental Coins</i> in B. M.
E. B.	<i>Encyclopædia Britannica, The</i>
En. of Is.	<i>Encyclopædia of Islām</i> , edited by T. Houtsma and others
E & D.	Elliot and Dowson's <i>History of India as told by its own historians</i>
E. M. I.	<i>Education in Muslim India</i> , by S. M. Jaffar
G. D. A. M. I.	<i>Geographical Dictionary of Ancient and Mediæval India</i> , by N. L. Dey
G. I.	<i>Gates of India, The</i> , by Sir J. Holdich.
G. M. S.	<i>Gibb Memorial Series</i>
H. I.	<i>History of India, The</i> , by M. Elphinstone

- H I E A* *History of Indian and Eastern Architecture*, by J Fergusson
- I A* *Indian Antiquary, The.*
- I G. I.* *Imperial Gazetteer of India, The*
- I K* Ibn Khaldūn's *Kitāb-ul- Ibār* translated into Urdu by Maulvī Hakīm Ahmad Hussain
- J. H* *Jawāmi-ul-Hikāyat*, by Awfi
- J R A S* *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland*
- J A S B* *Journal of the (Royal) Asiatic Society of Bengal*
- J. T.* *Jāmi-ut-Tawārikh*, by Rashīd-ud-Dīn
- K. T.* *al-Kāmil fit-Tawārikh*, by Allāmā Ibn-ul-Asir, edited by Tornberg
- L E C* *Lands of the Eastern Caliphate, The*, by G Le Strange
- L H P.* *Literary History of Persia, The*, by E G Browne
- M. F.* *Mahmūd wa Firdausī*, by Qāzī 'Abdus-Samad
- M. G* *Mahmūd of Ghazna, The Life and Times of Sultān*, by M Nāzım
- M. I* *Mediæval India, The History of*, by Ishwari Prasad
- Mihrañ* *The Mihrañ of Sind and its Tributaries*, by H. G Raverly in *J. A. S. B*
- M. Z.* *Murūy-us-Zahāb*, by Abul Hasan 'Alī bin Hussain al-Mas'ūdī, translated into English by A Sprenger
- N K P.* Newal Kishor Press (Lucknow)
- O H I* *Oxford History of India, The*, by V. A. Smith.
- P P. II T.* *Politics in Pre-Mughal Times*, by Ishwara Topa
- R. S.* *Rausat-us-Safā*, by Mīr Khwānd (N.K.P).

S. A	<i>Shur-ul-'Ajam</i> , by Al-Bīrūnī, Shihāb al-Dīn 'Abū 'Alī No'mānī.
Sachau	E. C. Sachau's translation of Al-Bīrūnī's <i>Tahqīq ih̄l Hind</i> , under the title 'Al-Bīrūnī's India'.
S A M. A	Some Aspects of Muslim Administration by H. P. Tripathi.
S C A. M. R. I	Some Cultural Aspects of Muslim Rule in India, by S. M. Jaffar.
S I M. H.	<i>Studies in Indo-Muslim History</i> , by S. H. Hodivala.
S M G	<i>Sultān Mahmūd of Ghazna</i> , by M. Habīb.
S N	<i>Siyāsat-Nāmah</i> , by Nizām-ul-Mulk, edited by Schefer.
S P L	<i>Studies in Persian Literature</i> , by Hādī Hasan.
T A	<i>Tabqāt-i-Akbarī</i> , by Nizām-ud-Dīn Ahmad (N. K. P.).
T B	<i>Tārīkh-i-Baihaqī</i> , by Abul Fazl Baihaqī.
T F	<i>Tārīkh-i-Ferishta (Gulshan-i-Ibrāhīmī)</i> , by Abul Qāsim Ferishta. (N. K. P.).
T G	<i>Tārīkh-i-Gusdāl</i> , by Hamdullah Mastaufī (G. M. S.).
T H.	<i>Tārīkh-i-Hindūstān</i> , by Shams-ul-Ulamā Dr. Muhammad Zakā'ullāh Khān.
T M.	<i>Tārīkh-i-Mas'ūdī</i> , by Abul Fazl Muhammad Hussain al-Baihaqī, edited by Morley.
T N	<i>Tabqāt-i-Nāsiri</i> , by Minhāj-us-Sirāj Juz-jānī (B. I. S.).
T S.	<i>Tas̄karat-ush-Shu'arā</i> , by Amīr Daulat Shāh Samarqandī.
T Y	<i>Tārīkh-i-Yamīnī (Kitāb-ul-Yamīnī)</i> , by Muhammad bin Muhammad al-Uṭbī.
Z. A.	<i>Ziyā-ul-Akhbār</i> , by 'Abdul Haī bin Az-Zuhāk bin Mahmūd al-Gardīzī, edited by M. Nāẓim.