

HISTORY NOTES FOR 7TH CLASS (FOR ISLAMABAD)

Unit-3

Muslim Dynasties

(Seljuks, Ayyubids, Fatimids, Safavids, Ottomans) and Crusades

1. Choose the Best Option:

1. Anatolia was captured by:

- a. Tughril
- b. Chaghri
- c. Malik Shah-I
- d. Alp Arslan

2. The city of Jerusalem is important to the three major religions:

- a. Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islamb.
- b. Judaism, Islam, and Buddhism
- c. Islam, Christianity, and Hinduism
- d. Islam, Christivanity, and Judaism

3. The First Crusade got started off when:

- a. Pope Urban II made a call for Crusade
- b. Seljuk Turks attacked the Catholic city of Rome
- c. Muslim armies took military control of the Mediterranean Sea
- d. Christians were prevented from entering Jerusalem

4. The main contenders of the crusades were:

- a. The Eastern and the Western Roman Empires

- b. The Romans and the Greeks
- c. The European Christians and the Muslims
- d. The Europeans and the Egyptians

5. The Ottoman Caliphate started in the year:

- a. 1299 AD b. 1453 AD
- c. 1517 AD d. 1566 AD

6. She maximum expansion of the Ottoman Empire was during the reign of:

- a. Suleyman the Magnificent
- b. Sultan Muhammad Fatih
- c. Sultan Selim I
- d. Sultan Murad II

7. The Ottoman Caliphate was dissolved in:

- a. 1919 AD b. 1924 AD
- c. 1927 AD d. 1931 AD

8. The capital of the Fatimids was:

- a. Damascus b. Baghdad
- c. Cairo d. Aleppo

9. Iran became a great power by:

- a. Fatimid b. Safavid
- c. Ottoman d. Seljuk

Answer:

- (1) (d) Alp Arslan
- (2) (b) Judaism, Islam and Buddhism.
- (3) (a) Pope Urban II made a call for Crusade.
- (4) (c) The European Christians and the Muslims.
- (5) (a) 1299 AD

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- (6) (b) Sultan Muhammad Fatih
- (7) (b) 1924 AD
- (8) (c) Cairo
- (9) (b) safavid.

Answer the following questions briefly.

1. Explain the importance of the following personalities in the history:

- i. Sultan Salahuddin Ayubi
- ii. Sultan Muhammad Fateh

Ans: Sultan Salahaddin Ayyubi:

Salahuddin Ayyubi came into power in 1169, as both commendider of the Syrian Troops in Egypt and vizier of the fatmid Caliph. As vizier of Egypt, he was given the title of "King (Malik) although he was generally known as the Sultan. After death of Nur-ud-Din Zangi in 1174. Salahuddin Ayyubi came to Syria and captured Damascus, Aleppo and Mosul. Conquest of Yemen enabled him to consolidate control over the entire Red sea. Through diplomacy and military force, he united the Muslim territories of Syria, northern Mesopotamia, Palestine and Egypt under his rule, by 1186. His fierce struggle against crusaders, presented him in Europe as Chivalrous knight. He gained wide-spread Muslim support by proclaiming himself the leader of jihad, or holy war, dedicated to defending Islam against Christianity.

(ii) Sultan Muhammad Fateh:

The Ottoman dynasty had 36 sultans and Sultan Muhammad Fateh

was one of them. He was known as the conqueror of Constantinople. The largest geographical expansions made by the Ottoman's were during his reign. He also focused in strengthening Ottoman military power by choosing and selecting troops.

He played a very important rate in the expansion if Islamic territory, setting the lands, making improvements in the economic, educational and very concerned about the welfare of its people. In his leadership, the center of government was made very beautiful, advanced and economically successful.

2. Enlist the causes of the downfall of Ayyubids.

Ans: Instead of establishing a centralized empire, Saladin appointed his relation in hereditary principalities throughout the conquered lands. This led to numerous wars of successions and internal rivalries weakening the Ayyubid Empire. At the same time zengids, attempted to restore zengid's rule in the region. The mongots drove out Ayyubids from Damascus and Aleppo in 1260. Following the Mongol defeat, most of Syria fell to the Mamluks. Local Ayyubid dynasties continued to rule parts of Syria until the Mamluks fully conquered them by 1334.

3. Who was the most powerful ruler of the Seljuk Dynasty?

Ans: The Seljuk were one of the nomadic tribes of the central Asia. The most powerful Seljuk ruler of the Dynasty was Malik Shah. He was the successor of Alp Arslan. Under Malik

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Shah the empire reached its territorial peak extending its lands from Syria to Yemen and from Anatolia to China. His reign is figured as the Golden Age of "Great Seljuk". In 1087 Malik Shah was titled as the "Sultan of the East and West", by the Abbasid Caliph.

4. Enlist the factors of Ayyubids' success.

Ans: The Ayyubid dynasty founded by Salah-al-Din Yousf Ibn Ayyub ruled Egypt, Syria Palestine, Parts off northern Mesopotamia and Yemen between 1171 and 1260. Ayyubids rise to power began with two Kurdish brothers. (Ayyub and Shirkuh), who migrated to Iraq in 1130 AD. They entered the service of Imad-al-Din Zangi, the powerful Turkish governor in northern Syria. Shirkuh served Nus-al-Din Mahmood as commander of the expeditionary force in Egypt. After death off Shirkuh, power passed to his brother Salah-al-Din Yusuf. He was given the title of "King" although he was generally known as Sultan.

Salahuddin Ayyubi came to Syria and captured Damascus, Aleppo and Mosul. Conquest of Yemen enabled him to consolidate control oven the entire Red Sea. He gained widespread Muslim support by proclaiming himself the leader of Jihad.

5. Write a short note on Safavids.

Ans: The Safavids were descended from Sheikh Safi-al-Din of Ardabil (Azerbaijan) head of the Safi order of Safaviyyeh. By the mid of 15th century Sheikh Safi's successors had become increasingly militant and their armies

had come to wield significant power in the region. In 1501, Shah Ismail, waged a campaign, against Ottomans with enough support from the Kizilbash, local Turkman. He annexed Shiraz, Baghdad and Herat. Ismail was succeeded by his son Tahmasp. In the following years Safavids captured greater past of Iran, Iraqi Baghdad and Mousel. Abbas-I was brought to throne in 1588. His striking military successes and effective administrative system made Iran a great power.

Safavid Dynasty declined after the death of Abbas-I. The decline could be traced back to the weakening of military forces and threat of Ottoman empire. Additional factors included Afghan invasion and establishment of trade monopolies.

6. List down the effects of Crusades in your own words.

Ans: The end of crusades marked the end of the Roman empire and the re-establishment of the Muslim rule over the entire region.

European contact with the cultures of the eastern Mediterranean grew. Crusaders brought back Asian goods, resulting in increased trade of spices, furs, cloth, sugarcane, rice etc.	Europeans were building better ships and finding new routes to India and China because the Muslims had control over the Holy Land. Since they had to find new routes, they	Europeans improved their language and mathematics. They grew stronger in medicine field, hygiene and building structures.	The defeat of the Crusaders diminished the power of Pope and Nobles which strengthened the power of Kings.
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	learned to read maps, navigate the routes and use compasses.		
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The Crusades, with the exchange of ideas and knowledge with the Muslim World, became a basis of the later European Renaissance and the Age of Exploration which eventually helped propel Western Europe to world domination.

7. Briefly describe the central administration during the Ottoman Empire.

Ans: The Ottoman State became an independent government by 1335 AD with the collapse of the Anatolian Saljuk and Ilhanid rules in Anatolia. Most of the Ottoman government institutions were founded during the time of Orhan Ghazi and Murad I.

Central Administration

The Ottomans had a great degree of central government unmatched in Europe of that time. Ottoman sultans delegated a good deal of their authority to their viziers and other high officials of their empire. Government positions were based purely on merit.



Answer the following questions in detail.

1. Highlight services of Seljuks in different fields.

Ans: The Seljuk were one of the nomadic tribes of central Asia. Sharing a background of strong warrior tradition, Seljuk were a subdivision of the Kiniq clan of the Oghuz Turks. In the middle of 10th century Seljuk and his followers embraced Islam. The Seljuk established a dynastic empire in the 11th century. This empire expanded from Anatolia to Punjab including most of modern-day Iran, Afghanistan, and Middle East. Seljuk died in 1007. By the mid-1020s, Seljuks reached Ghaznavid and defeated them. They captured Nishapur, the capital that led to foundation of Seljuk Empire. Tughril Beg conquered Iraq and Caliph gave him the title of Sultan. He was succeeded by his nephew, Alp Arslan.

Alp Arslan, annexed Armenia and Georgia in 1064. He invaded Byzantine Empire and captured Anatolia. In 1071 he neutralized the Byzantine threat through decisive victory in the Battle of Manzikert, Turkmen generals carved their own principalities out of formerly Byzantine Anatolia.

Alp Arslan was succeeded by his son Malik Shah in 1072. Under Malik Shah the empire reached its territorial peak extending its lands from Syria to Yemen and from Anatolia to China. His reign is figured as the golden age of "Great Seljuk". He was titled "The

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Sultan of the East and West" by the Abbasid Caliph.

The Seljuk empire was a group of semi-independent kingdoms instead of a centralised state. Each kingdom was ruled by a member of Seljuk family who maintained order through amirs. State administration was headed by a vizier. Aminated art was also introduced by Seljuks where letters were transformed into human and animal figures. They brought natural and central prosperity. Architecture and the arts flourished setting the stage for future artistic developments. They brought significant social changes in the region by developing an advanced political state. Ottoman empire and the Turkish Republic are socially, economically and religiously indebted to the Seljuk empire.

2. Revival of Christian power shattered Fatimid, how?

Ans: Abu Muhammad Abdallah ibn al-Husayn, better known by his regnal name Al-Mahdi Billah was founder of Fatimid caliphate which arose out of an underground missionary movement in the 10th century.

Fatimids became the political, cultural and religious centre off the empire and developed a new religious centre of the empire and developed a new and "indigenous Arabic" culture.

During the late eleventh and twelfth centuries, multiple factors materialize the decline of Fatimid caliphate. The revival of Christian power did much to weaken the Empire. The Fatimids lost much of Sicily and Spain and had to cope with

the wave of Crusades from the east. The Seljuk Turkamans emerged from the east. The ethnic based army reflected negative effects on internal politics. In 1171, Salahudin Ayubi brought a final blow to Fatimid Caliphate and became the master of Egypt.

3. What are the important characteristics of the Ottoman Empire?

Ans: The Ottoman Empire was founded in Sogut in 1299 AD. The Ottomans expanded towards the west and constantly fought against the shrinking Byzantine Empire.

The Ottoman Dynasty had 36 sultans in total and ruled for 623 years between 1299 and 1922. After the conquest of Egypt by Sultan Selim I in 1517, the caliphate passed to the Ottoman sultans and they assumed the title, "khadim al-Haramain al-sharifain" (the servant of two holy sanctuaries i.e. Makkah and Madinah). The Ottoman Caliphate continued for 407 years until it was abolished with the formation of the Republic of Turkey. There were total 30 Ottoman caliphs. The Ottomans had strong administration system. They delegated a good deal of their authority to their viziers and other officials. Government positions were purely based on merit. The empire was subdivided into many eyalets (provinces), were supervised by Governors, and appointed by Central Government. The Ottomans social structure may be divided into five categories:

→ People of the Pen (scholars, physicians)

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- People of the Sword (military personnel)
- People of Governance (executive, judiciary, bureaucracy)
- People of Negotiation (merchants and tax collectors)
- People of Craft (farmers, herders, and artisans)

The Ottoman Empire did not consist only of Muslim Turks but was a large and multi-ethnic state with people following different religions. In the Ottoman society, Muslims coexisted peacefully with Christians, Jews etc. The high number of taxpayers supported the efficient Ottoman bureaucracy. The Ottoman Empire covered a geography of 22 million square kilometres. The largest expansion was made during the reign of sultan Muhammad Fatih, the conqueror of Constantinople. Suleyman the Magnificent ruled for 46 years and developed institutional foundations with extensive boundaries.

The Ottoman Empire during its glorious days, was the world's superpower. The ottoman sultan were considered as the nightmare of the tyrants and the saviour of the oppressed. The ottoman empire left a deep political impact on three continents at multiple levels.

The Ottoman educational system consisted of formal and informal education, with different kinds of institutions. They were all based on the basics of Islam. Their main focus is to identify the abilities of the children at very early age.

The Ottoman Empire was officially dissolved on October 29, 1923 with the proclamation of the Republic of Turkey.

4. Analyse the role of Catholic Church in the lives of common people.

Ans: The Roman Catholic Church was immensely important and actually the most important factor in people's lives. The towns and cities were laid out, with the church in the center. Usually the Church Steeple was also the highest building in the city showing that nothing else was more important. As the centre of society, the church was very powerful and took in a lot of money. People paid a tax called a tithe to the church, representing 10% of their income. The church used this wealth to influence politics. In fact the upper levels of the catholic church, such as the pope at the top, were often more powerful than European Monarchs. This meant that kings and lords listened to the opinions of the church when they made decisions, allowing the church to influence what happened in different regions throughout Europe. The church also played an important role in preserving Greco-Roman culture, that was to safeguard and copy ancient manuscripts and works of art.

The church of course played an important role in the common people's lives. Most people didn't interact with the upper levels of the church. Instead ordinary people interacted with their local priests. Priests were generally not wealthy (unlike the pope) and lived humble lives taking care of the villages

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and communities where they lived. This meant that the priest and local church were often looked to as the source of education and spiritual guidance and ever, things like taking care of the sick. In a sense, local churches were like schools, hospitals and community centres rolled into one, serving all the needs of their community.

5. Describe the reasons for the beginning of the Crusades.

Ans: The Crusades were religious wars, sanctioned by the Roman Catholic Church in the medieval period. These wars were fought during 1095 AD-1492 AD. Roman Catholic Church launched military expeditions from Europe to Palestine, to reclaim Holy Land from the Muslims. The fighting between the Muslims and Crusaders took place in the areas of present day Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and Egypt.

Reasons:

The crusades are one of the most significant events in the history of Europe and the middle East. They were a series of religious wars carried out by Christian crusaders from Europe during the timeframe of the Middle ages. Beginning in 1095 it, the crusades saw European knights and noblemen travel to the Middle East in an attempt to capture the Holy Land away from Muslim people that had controlled the region for the previous centuries. The term crusade means 'cross'. Therefore the Europeans that became crusaders viewed themselves as "taking up the cross". Infact many of the crusaders wore crosses on their

clothing and arms as they made their pilgrimage to the Holy land. There were several key reasons for the pope to call for the crusades. **First** the Byzantine empire was under attack from Muslim civilization to the east. **Second** the Roman catholic church wanted to secure and protect Christian churches and holy sites in the region and sought soldiers to help. **Third** Islam emerged in the 7th century in the Arabian Peninsula and quickly spread to surrounding areas, such as Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe. The Roman Catholic church felt that Christianity was under attack from the spread of Islam and the crusades represented an attempt to stop it from spreading into European strongholds. **Fourth** the city of Jerusalem, which was the centre of the main conflict of the crusades, was considered to be important territory for Christian faith. As a result many Christians wanted it 'Freed' from Muslim control and sought to gain control over the area for religious and territorial reasons. **Fifth**, Europe had a long and bloody history that saw kingdoms and noblemen attack each other. In general the main causes of the crusades combined and led to the several different waves of the crusades that followed.

Critical Thinking

Q. In the chapter you have studies foundation, consolidation, and downfall of different dynasties. What lessons did you learn from rise and decline of these dynasties?

Ans: Empires rise and fall for many different reasons. Historians often

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categorize these reasons as political, economic, social and cultural or environmental. The process of growth had some similarities and some differences across empires. The period of growth of each dynasty is different. The main point is that imperial growth is about a central state extending political control over territory and people. When empires fall, They mean that the central state no longer exercised its broad power. This happened either because the state itself ceased to exist or because the state power was reduced as parts of the empire became independent of its control. Because empires are large and complex.

Glossary

Perished:	destroyed, ceased to exist
Propel:	Push
Commonwealth:	grouping of states
Genealogy:	the study of origin and family history
Caucasus:	mountainous region between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea
Dethrone:	removing a monarch from power
Allied Powers:	countries allied against the Central Powers (Germany, Austria, and Turkey)
Bureaucracy:	system of government in which decisions

are taken by state officials

Dynasty: succession of rulers of same line of descent

Continent: larger continuous masses of land

Crusades: series of religious wars between Christians and Muslims

Tyrant: cruel and oppressive ruler

Write down more words and their meaning that you find difficult in this unit.

Words	Meaning
Rebellion	Disobedience
Intrigue	Curiosity of Interest
Wield	Flourish
Supremacy	Predominance
Sanctuaries	Refuge/Safety from present.
