



A Study of Delhi Sultanate and War Technology

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Delhi had several Sultanates from the 12th to the 15th centuries. The Delhi Sultanate was founded after Muhammad Ghori defeated the Rajput king Prithviraj II in the battle of Tarain (second battle of Tarain) in 1192 AD. Qutbuddin Aibak became sultan of Delhi after the death of Ghori in 1206, and this formed the Slave dynasty. However, the Slave dynasty was finally overturned in 1290 AD when Qutbuddin Aibak's successor was overthrown. The Delhi Sultanate saw a steady succession of dynasties rising and fall: the Slave Dynasty lasted 1206 to 1290, the Khalji Dynasty lasted 1290 to 1320, the Tughluq Dynasty lasted 1320 to 1413, and the Sayyid Dynasty lasted 1414 to 1451. Ala Ud-din Khalji was the Khalji ruler under which the Muslim kingdom reached its zenith. When Tughluq's heirs began to break up the Delhi empire into many smaller states, it became almost difficult to bring it back together again.

War Technology

War technology in India occurred early during the medieval era, and the later phases merely built on what was already understood. Before the Turks and Afghans arrived in the 11th century, no major advances in war technology had occurred. Elephants acted as the backbone of all combat activities. The world's first documented use of war elephants in India for military purposes. Elephants captured from the Indian army were used in the Persian Empire. While both cavalry and infantry were involved in the fights, elephants were still at the head of the fighting. Prior to mass acceptance of high-tech technology, a major technical change emerged with the expanded use of in-flight arrows and other related equipment. In Chanakya's day, battle tactics had already been worked out and new methods had already been devised. In the medieval era, there were advances in war technology, particularly with the use of stronger guns and building of forts that were strong and well defended. Most of these guns were handheld. The military had both elephants and cavalry on the front lines, as well as infantry troops and chariots. The use of horse-drawn chariots in warfare was critical during that time period. fortifications played an important part in warfare. The building of hundreds of forts used thousands of forts. In experiments with crocodiles, the wall's fortification was shown by covering it with a moat. Land with large areas were typically favoured for the building of forts because large areas were desirable for fortification. During the building of the fort and



granaries, space was reserved for food products inside the fort and granaries were built for storing food grains. During the time of siege of the fort, these were used.

When the enemy breached the gate, the soldiers on the ramparts used their spears to shower and spray hot oil on them. The gate of each fort was constructed of huge wooden planks and fitted with metallic spears and nails. Elephants were ordered to knock down the gate by using ramming rods that were often used by foot soldiers. Later on, battering rams were created. In the majority of instances, when a fort was surrounded, the food and supplies contained inside it had been depleted.

During the Middle Ages, higher-quality horses from central Asia were shipped at a high expense. In every capital of an Indian provincial kingdom, there were always Arab merchants. It is said that there have been Abyssinian slaves serving in various capacities at palaces in harems and ports, such as palace guards. In addition, they had also enlisted hundreds of rough South African troops to teach them on battle techniques, as well as to defend royal palaces. Indian civilization was split into two separate groups by the 8th century, the warriors and the non-warriors. It should be remembered that the Indian army was not completely Professionalized during this period, and command-and-control coordination was not properly developed. The assaults on the Middle East by Turks and Afghans during the medieval period was a significant threat to Indian army technology. Driven by light and heavy cavalry, they fought a war in which combat campaigns were spearheaded by light and heavy cavalry, with the Rajput army, which usually preferred heavier weapons, mostly in charge.

The elephant is a benevolent giant. Historically, the light cavalry with archers, crossbowmen, and armor-piercing capabilities had superior capabilities for the Afghans and Turks. The horseshoe cavalry was better armed and equipped than the Rajput cavalry, whose troops were not shod.

Another noteworthy feature of the Turko-Afghan combat tactics was the use of entrenchments. Before the war began, they constructed trenches to fortify their artillery. This barrier provided a buffer between the artillery and infantry. Despite several attempts by infantry, however, the battle was finally determined by cavalry attacks. The use of guns was a minor part of this war. Cannons normally began fights by shooting for a couple of hours and then the cavalry would take the lead.

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