

BA LLB II SEM
HISTORY PPT LECTURE
04

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31-03-2020

THE DELHI SULTANATE

ADMINISTRATION OF DELHI SULTANATE:

Probable questions-

1. Describe the structure of the central government during the reign of delhi sultanate.
2. Write a note on provincial administration in delhi sultanate period.

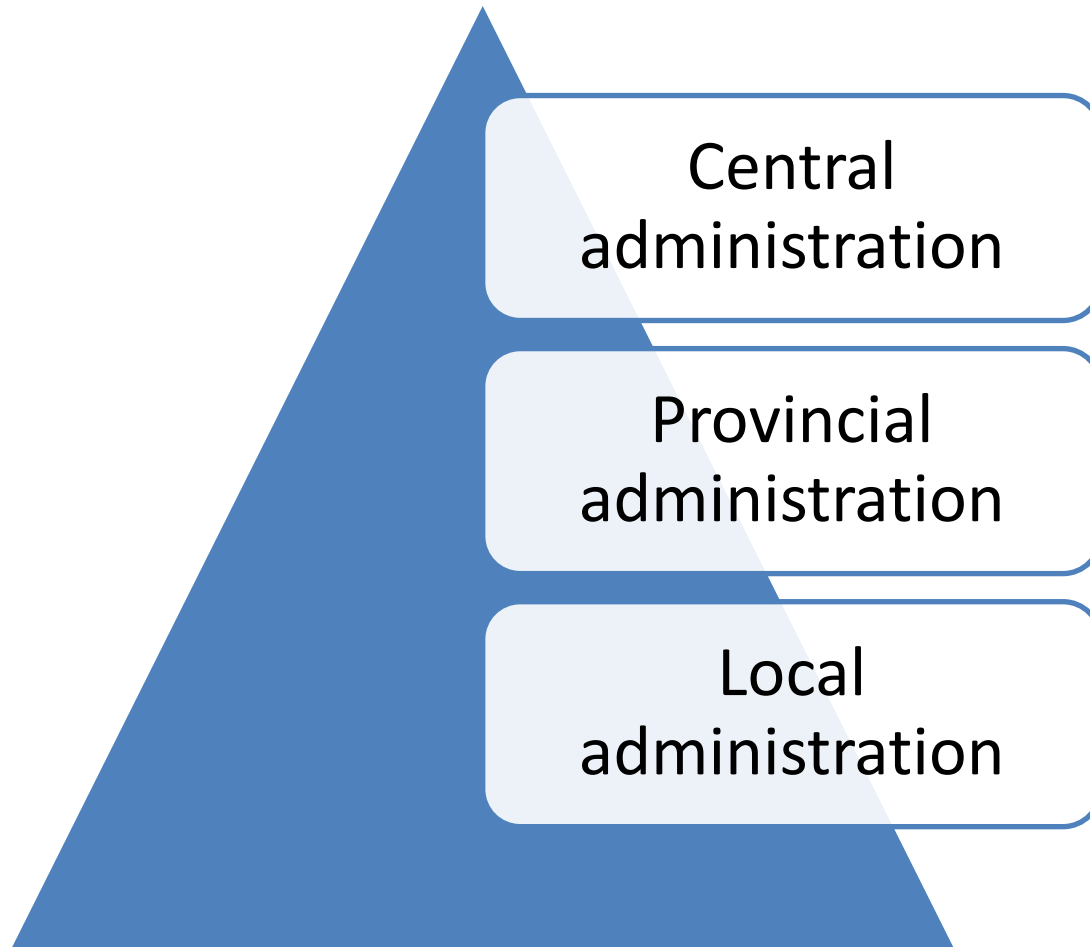
ADMINISTRATION IN DELHI SULTANATE

The rulers of delhi sultanate reigned for about three centuries and five prominent dynasties ruled over delhi. As the Turk rulers were foreigners hence administration in the sultanate period was mainly based on Arabic and Persian styles.

Further more rulers adopted Mongol army system for better results and continued the Hindu land revenue system.

Thus their administrative system was a mixed one.

Flowchart of Administration



Central Administration

Sultan
↓
Naib sultan
↓
Wazir

↓
Subordinate officials

Naib wazir
Mushriff
Mustauffi
Khajeen

↓
Subordinate departments

Diwan-i-waqoof
Diwan-i-riyasat
Diwan-i-mushtakhranj
Diwan-i-kohi
Diwan-i-khairat
Diwan-i-Bandgaan
Diwan-i-Baagaan
Diwan-i-imarat

Sultan: Sultan was the head of sultanate and considered a representative of god. All judicial and executive powers were vested in him. He was the chief appointing authority and supreme commander of the army.

Majlis-i-Khas: For the smooth running of administration, the sultan had some ministers. Known as majlis-i-khas. Barni mentions four prominent ministers in the majlis-i-khas:

1. Wazir (Diwan-i-wizarat)
2. Ariz-i-Mamlik
3. Diwan-i-insha
4. Diwan-i-rasalat

1. Wazir: The most important of all the ministers was the wazir. He was the prime minister and stood midway between sovereign and his subject. The office of the wazir was named as Diwan-i-wizarat. Following were the subordinate officials of wazir;

- Naib-i-wazir- He was the most important among subordinates.
- Musrif-i-mamlik- He was the accountant general.
- Mustaufi-i-mamalik- He was the auditor general.
- Khajeen- He was the treasurer.

Following were the subordinate departments of wazir;

- Diwan-i-waqoof- This dept. was responsible for maintaining the details of the expenditure.
- Diwan-i-riyasat- It was a commercial dept.
- Diwan-i-mustakhraj- It was responsible for control over revenue officials
- Diwan-i-kohi- It was agriculture dept. founded by MBT.
- Diwan-i-khairat- FST set up a separate dept. for the help of poor people.
- Diwan-i-bandgaan- Founded by FST for welfare of the slaves.

- Diwan-i-baagaan- FST set up this dept. for maintaining 1200 fruit gardens around delhi.
 - Diwan-i-imarat- Founded by FST. It was the public works dept.
2. Ariz-i-mamlik: He was the minister incharge of military affairs. His chief function was to make recruitment for army and to keep descriptive roles (huliya) and branding of horses (daag).
 3. Diwan-i-insha: He was the incharge of royal correspondence dept. He was also known as Amir Munshi. All the royal farmans were issued by this dept.

4. Diwan-i-Rasalat: Dr. Habibullah writes that this portfolio was responsible for foreign affairs and used to maintain deplomatic relations with foreign countries

Beside the above four significant portfolios, there were some other officials such as;

Amir-i-Akhur

Amir-i-Shikar

Amir-i-majlis

Amir-i-haazib

Amir-i-tuzaka

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THANK YOU

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