

India Before the Times of Shivaji Maharaj

Chapter 2: India Before the Times of Shivaji Maharaj · Topic 1

Key Concept

The Mughal Empire, founded by Babur, was a dominant power in northern India, with rulers like Akbar expanding and consolidating control.

The Deccan region had several sultanates, including Bijapur and Ahmednagar, which controlled parts of present-day Maharashtra.

These regional powers often engaged in conflicts with each other and with the expanding Mughal Empire for territorial control.

This politically fragmented landscape set the stage for the eventual rise of Maratha power under Shivaji Maharaj's leadership.

Quick Revision Notes

- Mughal Empire founded by Babur.
- Akbar expanded, consolidated Mughal control.
- Deccan sultanates: Bijapur, Ahmednagar.
- They controlled parts of Maharashtra.
- Regional powers often fought each other.
- Also fought expanding Mughal Empire.
- This was a fragmented political landscape.
- This set stage for Maratha rise under Shivaji.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research the Mughal Empire's expansion under Akbar.
- 2 Research the Bijapur or Ahmednagar sultanate.
- 3 Discuss the political fragmentation before Shivaji.
- 4 Draw a map showing regional powers of that era.
- 5 Discuss why this fragmentation mattered for Maratha rise.
- 6 Explain the political landscape in your own words.