

Regional Kingdoms of Early Medieval India

Chapter 15: Empires and Kingdoms: 6th to 10th Centuries · Topic 1

Key Concept

In the south, dynasties like the Cholas, Pandyas, and Chalukyas built powerful kingdoms known for temple architecture, naval power, and administrative systems.

In the north, kingdoms like the Rajputs emerged, known for their warrior traditions, forts, and resistance against various invasions.

These regional kingdoms often engaged in trade, both within India and internationally, with southern kingdoms like the Cholas notably trading with Southeast Asia.

This period of regional kingdoms contributed significantly to India's diverse architectural, cultural, and administrative traditions that continue to be studied and admired today.

Quick Revision Notes

- Early medieval India was roughly 6th-12th centuries CE.
- Southern dynasties included Cholas, Pandyas and Chalukyas.
- Southern kingdoms were known for temples and naval power.
- Northern kingdoms included the Rajputs.
- Rajputs were known for warrior traditions and forts.
- Regional kingdoms engaged in trade within and outside India.
- Cholas notably traded with Southeast Asia.
- This period shaped India's architectural and cultural traditions.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research the Chola dynasty and its achievements.
- 2 Research Rajput forts and their significance.
- 3 Discuss why the Cholas traded with Southeast Asia.
- 4 Compare northern and southern kingdoms of this period.
- 5 Find a temple built by a southern dynasty.
- 6 Create a map showing regional kingdoms of this period.