

S.No.	AREA OF META DATA	TO BE FILLED BY THE CONTENT GENERATOR
1	THEME	Historical sources to study the Past.
2	SUBJECT	History.
3	CHAPTER	Tracing changes through a thousand years.
4	CLASS/LEVEL	Seventh
5	OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To introduce students to various historical sources. • To learn about the importance of literary sources such as Biographies, Autobiographies etc. • To know about the importance of archaeological sources in studying our past.
6	DESCRIPTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The medieval period is quite well documented. The number of written records increased due to the easy availability of paper. • The written records that gave us valuable information about the period are known as manuscripts. • Literary sources include autobiographies, biographies, chronicles etc. • Archaeological sources include inscriptions, monuments, coins etc.
7	KEYWORDS	Archives, manuscripts, epigraphy, numismatics etc.
8	CONTENT DEVELOPER	Jyothika
9	SUBJECT COORDINATOR	Mily Roy Anand
10	CIET COORDINATOR	

HISTORICAL SOURCES

LITERARY SOURCES



The oldest surviving manuscript of a text composed in Sanskrit.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOURCES



Kushan coins made up of Gold.

LITERARY SOURCES

Written records are known as **Manuscripts**. They were written by hands and people called **Scribes** made copies of the text.

TYPES:-

- **Autobiographies** : Life record of a person written by himself. Baburnama by Babur ,Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri by Jahangir. They shed light on the Mughal rule .They were written in Turkish and Persian.



A painting from Baburnama depicting the darbar scene taking place.

- **Chronicle:** Chronicle is a written record in which events are described in the order of their occurrence. Kings commissioned scholars' and poets to write official chronicles and biographies for them. Some important historical works composed are -kalhan's Rajtaringini, Prithviraj raso.

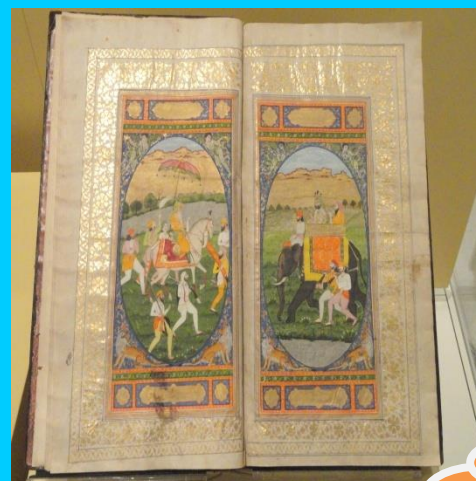
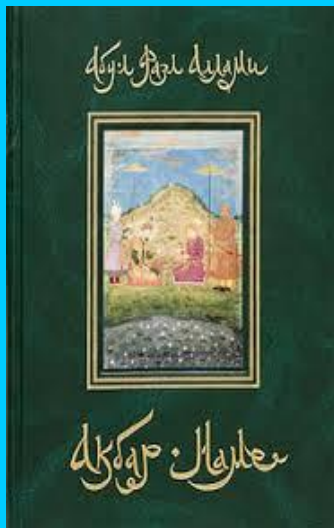


PRITHVIRAJ CHAUHAN



A scene from Prithviraj Raso showing the defeat of Prithviraj Chauhan by Ghori.

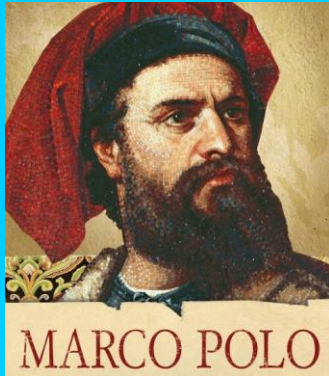
Ain-i-Akbari and Akbarnama written by Abul Fazal gives record of the rule of Akbar. They record the rule of Akbar.



The Akbarnama is the official chronicle of the reign of Akbar. It was written in Persian and includes detailed description of his life and rule.

The third volume of Akbarnama is named as Ain-i-Akbari. It deals with Akbar's household, army, revenues and the geography of his empire.

- **Account of Travellers:** The accounts of people who travelled around medieval India provide valuable information about the places they visited and the people they met. Examples are Marco polo of Italy; Ibn Battuta a Moroccan traveller visited India.



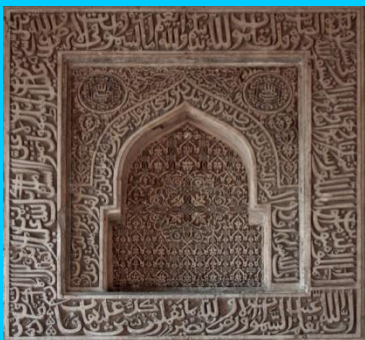
Marco polo of Venice was one of the earliest foreign travellers to visit India.



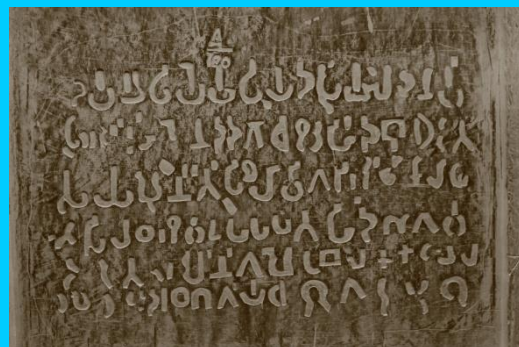
Abu Abdullah Muhammad Ibn Battuta was a Moroccan Muslim scholar and traveller .He wrote Rihla.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOURCES

- **Inscriptions** : Inscriptions are writings on hard surfaces such as stones ,copper plates etc. The study of inscriptions is known as **EPIGRAPHY**. They are important sources of information about the kings and kingdoms of medieval India .



QURAN inscription on a wall



Ashokan inscription written in prakrit language

- **Monuments** : Monuments give us an insight into the lives of people and rulers of medieval India. They also shed light on the artistic skills of people.

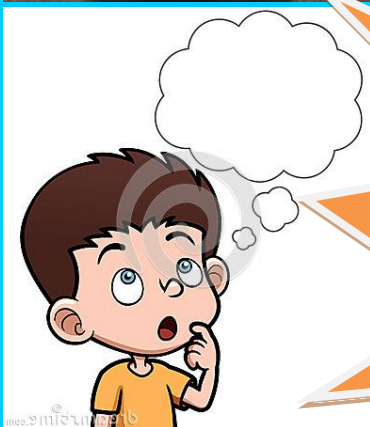


RED FORT



KONARK TEMPLE

- **Coins** : The study of coins is known as **NUMISMATICS**. Archaeologists have found a number of coins from the medieval period and they tell us about rulers, their titles, achievements, interest etc.



Silver rupee of Awadh, struck in the name of the Mughal emperor Shah Alam II at Lucknow . The coin features a stylised fish on the reverse, the dynastic symbol of the Nawabs of Awadh, seen also on the Awadh flag.

STUDENT'S ACTIVITY

1. _____ is an example of archaeological source.
(i) Coins (ii) biography (iii) chronicle (iv) manuscript
2. During the medieval period, manuscripts and documents were written by hand.
True or False?
3. Important historical works from the medieval period include _____,
_____ and _____.
(i) Rajatarangini (ii) Kathasaritasagar (iii) Akbarnama (iv) Tughluq Nama
4. Many foreign travellers visited medieval India. They include:
(i) Marco Polo (ii) Al-Biruni (iii) Ibn Battuta (iv) All of these
5. Match the following :

(i) Ibn Battuta	a. Italian
(ii) Marco Polo	b. British
(iii) Sir Thomas Roe	c. French
(iv) Francois Bernier	d. Moroccan

6. HOTS

Why do we have more written records for medieval period in contrast to ancient period?

ANSWER KEY:

- 1) Coins
- 2) True
- 3) Rajatarangini , Akbarnama, Tughluq Nama
- 4) All of these
- 5) (i) - d. , (ii)-a. , (iii)- b. , (iv)- c.
- 6) The medieval period is quite well documented . In fact , the number of written records multiplied during the period as paper became cheaper and easily available . Many of the texts were collected by people , kings , temples and became part of libraries. Even the archaeological sources of this period like monuments still stand straight.

URL

- 1) https://www.google.co.in/search?site=img&pbm=isch&q=BABUR+NAMA&tbs=sur:fmc&gws_rd=cr&ei=8PJPV_PgEaLhmAWN8o2YAq#gws_rd=cr&imgcr=QAF036BI2PFNSM%3A
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- 9) <https://www.emaze.com/@AFLRRITQ/the-akbarnama>
- 10) [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ain-i-Akbari_\(The_Chronicles_of_Emperor_Akbar\),_Lahore,_Pakistan,_c._1822_-_Royal_Ontario_Museum_-_DSC09640.JPG](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ain-i-Akbari_(The_Chronicles_of_Emperor_Akbar),_Lahore,_Pakistan,_c._1822_-_Royal_Ontario_Museum_-_DSC09640.JPG)
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