

**Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against  
Muhammad Ghori,the Muslim Invader**

Subrata Mandal<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research Scholar

Department of History,

Raiganj University

Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal, India

Email Id: [subratamandal9563@gmail.com](mailto:subratamandal9563@gmail.com)

---

***Abstract:**Prithviraj III was also known as Prithviraj Chauhan. He was a king who ruled the kingdom from Ajmer to Delhi during the 12th century. He is celebrated for his qualities of archery, military administration and undying love for his queen Sanyukta. Prithviraj Chauhan's leadership skills and mastery of archery made him an unconquerable king. Prithviraj's military genius was most evident in his epic battles against the invader Muhammad Ghori during his Battle of Tarain. The war fought between the two forces in 1191 CE is known as the First Battle of Tarain. In this war not only did Prithviraj win, he also left Ghori badly wounded. However, Ghori was saved by a Khalji horseman who carried him to safety. Turkish forces attacked for the second time in 1192 CE which is known as the Second Battle of Tarain. This time Ghori came with good preparations. He had carefully planned his moves to defeat the Chauhans. The Chauhan ruler was badly defeated in this war. Prithviraj was the main resistor to the establishment of Muslim empire in India. Due to his bravery, patience and war skills, India could not be ruled by the Muslims. After his death, the existence of Hindu kings started to end slowly. Prithviraj's life story was full of sad events.*

***Keyword:** Battle, Buddhist, Destroyed, Invasion, Invader, Kingdom, Hindus, Muslims etc.*

---

**Date of Submission:28.02.2026**

**Date of Acceptance: 05.03.2026**

---

**Introduction**

The saga of valour of the son of Chauhan dynasty, 'Prithviraj Chauhan', who is said to be an example of valour and courage, is unique in itself. Prithviraj Chauhan III aka Rai Pithora (Rai Pithora) was the 12th century AD ruler of a strong kingdom in north-west India. Its capital was at Ajmer. Prithviraj Chauhan was a Rajput. Rajput means the *son of a king*. He was indeed very brave. If we think about his personality, he had many such qualities for which his fame spread far and wide. First of all, he was a very brave man, many kings were jealous of

---

# Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against

---

his bravery, including King Jaichand of Kannauj. Whenever the glorious Prithviraj set out to suppress the enemies with his brave feudal lords, the shine of his fame got a wonderful glow. Prithviraj is one of the most famous personalities of Indian history, for quite a few reasons. The life of Prithviraj is primarily known from three medieval poems like 'Prithviraj Raso' written in Brajhasha by the famous poet Chand Bardai, '*Hammir Mahakavya*' written in Sanskrit by the Jain poet Nayachandra Suri, and 'Prithviraj Vijay' written in Sanskrit (*presumably by Prithviraj's court poet and historian Jayanka*). However, all these three sources are quite legend-based. It is difficult to recover the real life story of Prithviraj from them. Along with these three poems, there are written accounts by Islamic '*Tarikh*' (chronologists). Apart from this, some stone inscriptions of contemporary or later kings also tell about him.

## Origin of Chauhan Dynasty

It is said that in ancient times, there was an ashram of sages on Mount Abu, they used to do penance there, but when the demons started creating a terrible havoc there, it became difficult for the sages to do penance there. To control the demons, the sages performed a great *yagya*. Four heroes were born from the *havankund* of the *yagya*. These four heroes were Parmara, Patihara, Solanki and Chauhan. By the order of the sages, these four heroes protected the four directions of Mount Abu. Veer Chauhan was appointed to protect the north direction. His first son Ajaypal built a grand city, which was named Ajmer.<sup>1</sup>

## Early life of Prithviraj Chauhan III

Prithviraj's father Someshwara Chouhan was the king of Shakambhari-Ajmer Chouhan kingdom from 1169-1177 AD. Prithviraj's mother was Karpuri Devi. She was the daughter of Chandravanshi Haihaya ( Kalchuri) King Achalaraj aka Narsingh Deva of Tripuri/Chedi i.e. present-day Tewar of southern MP. There is no record of Someshwara's contact with Muslim powers. However, in his reign, the Islamic world northwest of the Chouhan territory was bursting with table -turning events. The important town of Ghazni and much of Ghaznavid kingdom was snatched from Ghaznavids and was eventually taken over by Ghurids. The last of Ghaznavid king had already settled in Punjab.<sup>2</sup>

Prithviraj was born in Anahilawādā the capital of Gujarat Chaulukyas and raised there up to 1169 AD. It was his father Someshwara's maternal home. In the early years, Prithviraj was taught six languages, as was the standard for any accomplished person of that age. He

## **Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against**

---

was trained in various sciences and arts like medicine, military, mīmāsā, dharma, pourāṇika itihāsa, ganita, sangīta, and chitra-kalā. Our champion would attend physical exercises daily and frequently go on horse riding, and hunting, etc. His voice was thick, serious and his hair was curly. He had large eyes, a broad chest, and was ajānubāhu, i.e. long arms reaching up to knees. Hence, fittingly (arm-span being a factor in archery) many sources record that his skill in archery was unparalleled among other royals of north India at the time. He was proficient in controlling elephants as well. The young King's gait was slow, with a subtle sway.<sup>3</sup>

### **Gaining the Throne of Delhi**

Raso says that the Delhi King Anangpal Tomara was past his autumn years without a son. He sent a letter to Kadamabavāsa conveying his wish to adopt Prithviraj Chauhan, his daughter's son as the heir.<sup>4</sup> Thereupon, After several days, Prithviraj set out towards Delhi with great pomp and splendour, along with his warriors and feudal chiefs. As soon as Prithviraj reached Delhi, celebrations began and on Thursday, 5th Margashirsha Shukla of Samvat 1138, Prithviraj was seated on the throne of Delhi. On the second day, Prithviraj's procession was taken out with great pomp and show between the joint armies of Delhi and Ajmer and a court was held in the evening. Prithviraj ascended the throne. The chief officials of both the kingdoms came to the court and congratulated him and gave him gifts. On the second day, Anangpal bid farewell to everyone and set out for Badrikashram with his wife and Prithviraj started ruling the state of Delhi with policy and justice.<sup>5</sup>

### **The Rise of Ghori**

Shihab-ad-din aka Muiz-al-din<sup>1</sup> bin Sam aka Muhammed Ghori, the younger brother of Ghiyasuddin was made governor of the Ghazni province in 1173 AD<sup>2</sup>. Khusrau Malik, the last Ghaznavid ruler, was already expelled from Ghazni by Seljuks in 1161 AD. Although he was ruling Punjab from Lahore comfortably, by the 1170s, the Ghurids had become far more powerful than Ghaznavids. Its testimony lies in the fact that squeezed hard from the west by the likes of Ghurids; the Ghaznavids were desperately attacking India to expand further in east and south.<sup>6</sup>

In 1175 AD, Ghori swept down southeast from the Gomal pass. It was his favorite (safer and quicker) pass to approach toward India, against the Khyber and Bolan passes. He attacked the Qaramitah tribe of Arabs and snatched Multan<sup>3</sup> from their centuries-old sway. He then took Ucca (modern Uch Sharif, Pakistan) further south in the same year, whose contemporary

## **Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against**

---

ownership is debated as with Qaramitah Arabs or Bhati (Bhātī) Rajputs or Bhatīs but under the Qaramitahs.<sup>7</sup>

In 1178 AD, the 29 years old Ghori starts a new campaign toward India. His timing is curious, as then the two strongest Indian kingdoms in his vicinity had minor rulers. Prithviraj Chauhan of Ajmer was 15 years old, and Mūlarāja Chaulukya II of Gujarat was even younger. Both were under the supervision of their mothers. From Multan, Ghori embarked on his first expedition toward India, on which the first stop was Lodrava (Lodravā) ruled by Yaduvanshi Bhati Rajputs, the western neighbors of Prithviraj Chauhan.<sup>8</sup>

### **The Battle of Prithviraj and Ghori before The Battle of Tarain**

Getting Lahore in 1186 AD, as shown earlier, had completed for Ghurids the absorption of all Ghaznavid lands of Punjab. Ghori was now a neighbour of Prithviraj by hundreds of kilometers of the border. The Chauhans were boxed in by him on their west as well as the north. Thus, the Ghurids' contact with the Ajmer Kingdom was inevitable.<sup>9</sup>

Numerous Hindu sources count the number of times Prithviraj defeated Ghori, ranging from 7 to 28. Muslim sources however mention one or two battles only. The truth lies somewhere in the middle of these two extremes that both the biased camps paint. At least half a dozen Govardhan inscriptions<sup>1</sup> in the desert tract of west Rajasthan dated 1187 and 1188 AD record the struggle of locals against an invading army from Multan, naming various martyrs who perished in saving women, cows, and shrines from the marauders. Retrospectively, it indicates that tables had turned between Ghurids and Chauhans in the 4-5 years from 1182/83 to 1187 AD.<sup>10</sup>

It seems that Ghori's generals had started incursions in and around the northern territories of the Chauhan kingdom. The plundering raids were resisted by local chiefs. Some would have caused immense damage, and many would have been beaten back thoroughly. Viruddha Vidhi Vidhvansa states that Prithviraj's general Skanda defeated the Ghurids repeatedly<sup>2</sup>. Some of these clashes would be border skirmishes and remaining plundering raids for measuring the other side. The involvement of a General like Skanda means there was a mix of moderate magnitude engagements.<sup>11</sup>

This is where the Muslim sources fall completely silent and Hindu sources amplify the incidents as proper battles where Prithviraj personally beats Ghori in all of them.<sup>12</sup>

### **The Battle Between Prithviraj and Ghori**

## **Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against**

---

In 1186, Mohammad Ghori attacked Delhi for the first time. Mohammad Ghori had an army of tall and strong Pathans, yet Prithviraj's soldiers were no less strong, there was a fierce battle between the two armies. There was great enthusiasm among the soldiers of both sides. Still, King Prithviraj's army was overpowering them and his army defeated Mohammad Ghori's army.<sup>13</sup>

Mohammad Ghori and Prithviraj were fighting with each other. At that time Mohammad Ghori was riding an elephant and Prithviraj was riding his favourite white horse. He threw Mohammad Ghori down from the elephant. Seeing himself trapped in Prithviraj's clutches, Mohammad Ghori started pleading and promised not to look at Delhi again.<sup>14</sup>

Muhammad Ghori was Prithviraj's enemy, but due to his forgiving nature, Prithviraj forgave Mohammad Ghori and ordered him not to even think of such a thing in future. Prithviraj forgave Mohammad Ghori keeping in mind the pride of the Rajputs, but from the point of view of diplomacy, it was not in accordance with justice to let the enemy go. The result of this was that Mohammad Ghori quietly developed his military power for a year and the very next year he again attacked Delhi.<sup>15</sup>

Every single soldier of Prithviraj was selected, then there was a fierce battle between Prithviraj's army and Mohammad Ghori's army and this time also the result was the same that Prithviraj's army defeated Mohammad Ghori's army. This time too Mohammad Gauri begged for forgiveness from Prithviraj Chauhan and then Prithviraj forgave Mohammad Gauri again to maintain the dignity of Rajputs.<sup>16</sup>

It was a significant thing in itself that Mohammad Gauri fought with Prithviraj seven times. Every time he fought with more military strength than before and every time he lost and was let go by Prithviraj Chauhan. It was the foolishness and impudence of Mohammad Gauri that despite knowing that he would not be able to defeat a brave warrior like Prithviraj, he made the same mistake every time and even after being forgiven, he did not feel ashamed, rather the desire to conquer Delhi increased even more in his mind.<sup>17</sup>

### **Mahammad Ghori's Revenge Plan**

Muhammad Ghori was always in the mood to take revenge for his insult from Prithviraj. He had tested Prithviraj's strength by fighting with him and had understood very well that defeating him in a face-to-face battle was not an easy task. So, now he decided to get his work done by deceit. He sent a man named "Madhav Bhaat" who was smart, intelligent and a

## **Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against**

---

scholar of many languages, to India to find out about Prithviraj. Madhav came to Delhi and gave a good demonstration of his scholarship and intelligence and within a short time he became the favourite of many members of Prithviraj's court and feudal lords. There was a Kayastha named Dharmayan in Prithviraj's court. Madhav trapped him in his skillful trap. Through this Dharmayan, Madhav came to know many things and through this he was able to reach Prithviraj and become the recipient of his favour. Seeing the kindness of the king, other people also started looking at him with respect. Due to which, in a few days he came to know the complete secret of Prithviraj's political and practical moves and after collecting all the news of other feudal lords, government employees and subjects etc., he took leave from Prithviraj and left for Ghazni. No one came to know from where and for what purpose he had come. He went to Ghazni and told Gauri all the events from Prithviraj getting the throne of Delhi till the end, his behavior and all the news of the army etc.<sup>18</sup>

On hearing the news of Prithviraj's increasing glory, Shahabuddin became even more jealous and started thinking in his mind that when he had only the kingdom of Ajmer in his hands, we could not defeat Prithviraj, now due to the merger of two kingdoms, he has become invincible. Even after thinking all this, he had such an obsession for India that he could not remain calm. He gathered his big chieftains and held a court. In the court, Madhav again told everything. After a lot of arguments and thinking, it was decided that Madhav is a Hindu, so his words should not be believed. It is possible that he is deceiving us by meeting those people. Now someone else should be sent to find out the secrets.<sup>19</sup>

According to this thought, Muhammad Khan was sent in the guise of a fakir. Dharmayan told him all the secrets of Prithviraj's rule. He also came back from there and said the same things that Madhav Bhaat had said. Therefore, Muhammad Ghori became very suspicious and started consulting his ministers. His ministers also definitely praised Prithviraj; But Dharmayan's presence was a great support to him. The Prime Minister advised to attack India again and said that this time with the help of Dharmayan we will definitely win.<sup>20</sup>

He now felt the need to establish a suitable base in the Punjab before embarking on a campaign to conquer India. So he began his campaign against the Ghaznavid-held territories in the Punjab. By 1190, Muizzuddin had conquered Peshawar, Lahore and Sialkot and was now ready to advance towards Delhi and the Gangetic Doab.<sup>21</sup>

### **The First Battle of Tarain: Ghori vs Prithviraj, 1190-1191 AD**

---

## Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against

---

In the second half of 1190 AD, Ghori started preparations for an eastward expansion via Punjab as the launchpad. Toward the end of 1190 AD, Ghori swept down from Lahore. Following his usual bit by bit approach, he captured the Sirhind Fort that Islamic scribes have called Tabarhind. It was an outpost in Prithviraj's territory. It is north-northwest of Delhi at approximately 250 km as the crow flies.<sup>22</sup>

Thus a fight between these two ambitious kings - Muizzuddin Muhammad and Prithviraj was inevitable. The conflict began with both claims over Tabarhind.<sup>23</sup> The two armies met in I 191 at Tarain, ten miles north of Karnal, on another part of the great plain which includes the historic-'field of Panipat, and on which the fate of India has been decided again and again.<sup>24</sup>

Isami says at this point- the brave Hindus didn't delay in fighting themselves for the fight. In the floodplain of Tarain, the two sides arrayed against each other in three wings each. According to Ferishta, Rajputs opened the attack first with a thundering cavalry charge. It was a direct fight where Rajput cavalries of both wings charged and smashed into the corresponding Ghurid wings. Under the constant lashing of Rajput swords, the Ghurid right wing was the first to dent. Gradually, the left-wing took to the same fate. Meanwhile, the Rajput center wing of Infantry and Elephants, etc. was slowly approaching the Ghurid centre. Blow by blow, the light cavalry of Rajputs began cutting the Ghurids down in close combat.<sup>25</sup>

The breaking of ranks and retreating, especially by the Afghan and Khilji components of the Ghurid army had spread a melee. Owing to tremendous Rajput momentum, many boastful Amirs of various tribes fled for their lives and many Ghurids fell fighting. One such Amir came informing Ghori that both the wings had almost evaporated and advised him to retreat as well before Rajput cavalry completely encircled him. Ghori got displeased at the cowardly suggestion.<sup>26</sup>

With his centre wing intact, he decided to fight on and rushed forward. The approaching Rajput centre of infantry, camels, and leaders on elephants had already charged to meet him. There were no wings and no ranks anymore; a bloodbath of all men burst off in one giant huddled mass. The open field of Tarain vibrated with the slithering swords guzzling blood as the fruit of death, with the screeching spears shattering the armors and convulsing bodies into the trash of flesh. Ghori saw Govindaraj Tomara of Delhi leading the troops from his elephant and desperately made contact. He went for the head and hit Govindaraj with a spear.<sup>27</sup> His spear drove his teeth down his throat; but his rash exposure nearly cost him his life, and he was only saved by the devotion of a Khalji retainer who mounted behind him and

## **Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against**

---

carried him off the field.<sup>28</sup> At this point, Minhaj and Badayuni, etc. perform a literary rescue by saying that – a Khalji soldier noticed injured Ghori and mounted that horse before Ghori could fall and then took him to safety.<sup>29</sup>

Prithviraj now advanced towards Tabarhind and captured it after a 12-month siege. Prithviraj did not attempt to drive the Ghurids out of the Punjab. He probably thought that Tarain would be another attack like the frequent Turkish raids and that the Ghurid rulers would be content to rule the Punjab. This gave Muizzuddin Muhammad time to reorganise his army and launch another invasion of India the following year. He also rejected Prithviraj's alleged peace offer that the Punjab would remain under Ghurid rule.<sup>30</sup>

### **The Battle of Tarain-II**

The sultan could not forget the disaster. At Ghazni, he confessed, 'he never slumbered in ease nor waked but in sorrow and anxiety.' The next year saw him again in India.<sup>31</sup> During this time, from Ghazni to Lahore, Ghori's troops gradually increased. One such instance was on the bank of Indus, where he was joined by hitherto unknown Turkish cavalymen<sup>3</sup>. From there he went to Multan and Lahore, meeting his subordinate Amirs in both the cities. The numbers were augmented there as well.<sup>32</sup> Once Ghori and Rajputs were in the same field separated by a channel of Sarasvati.<sup>33</sup>

The Second Battle of Tarain (1192) is considered a turning point in Indian history. Muizzuddin Muhammad had made careful preparations for this confrontation. It is said that he advanced with 1,20,000 soldiers, including a heavy cavalry fully equipped with steel chain mail and 10,000 horse archers.<sup>34</sup> Ghori divided the main army into four cavalry divisions of archery dominated configuration. Each division was of 10,000 troops.<sup>35</sup> It would not be right to think that Prithviraj was careless about the situation and woke up only when the last moment had come, although it is true that Skanda, the commander of the previous victorious campaign, was fighting somewhere else. As soon as Prithviraj sensed the danger from Gauri, he appealed to all the kings of North India for help. It is said that many kings sent troops to help him, but King Jaichandra of Kannauj stayed away. There is a story that the reason for this was Prithviraj's abduction of Jaichandra's daughter Sanyogita, who loved him, but this has not been accepted by many historians. This story was written much later by the poet Chandrabardai as a romantic tale and contains many improbable events. As we have seen,

## **Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against**

---

there was an old enmity between the two kingdoms, so Jaichandra's sidelining is not surprising.<sup>36</sup>

On the banks of the Kaggar river, the armies of both sides were waiting for the orders of their respective masters. Rawal Samar Singh ji was inspecting his army and placing the soldiers at the appropriate place and was encouraging the army with encouraging words. The whole day passed like this. The dark night of Amavasya arrived. Both the armies went and sat in their respective camps. Prithviraj's army was relaxed with the thought that the Yavanas would not attack now, because they believed Shahabuddin's letter. Shahabuddin played another trick to convince the enemy side. As soon as the night fell, he ordered to keep the fire burning in front of his tents. So that the Hindus could be confident that the Muslim army would not attack the Hindus. This is what happened. Seeing the fire burning in the camp of the Yavana army, the Hindu army became even more relaxed and started resting comfortably in their tents. Shahabuddin kept the Hindus in the dark in this way and on the other hand ordered his army to get ready. He prepared his army well overnight and attacked in the morning when Prithviraj's army was busy in their daily chores. Although the army of Yavanas had suddenly attacked the Hindu army, yet the Hindu army got ready for the war in the same state. A fierce battle began. Rawal Samar Singh and King Prithviraj, riding on their horses, started roaming around inspecting their army. Both the armies got into such a fight that it was difficult to distinguish between one's own and another's. It is written in *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri* that the Hindu army of Kashmir also fought with Prithviraj in this war along with the Yavanas and Goyandaray was killed by Narsingh Dev of Jammu. Gradually, the strength of the Hindu army started decreasing. While fighting, Prithviraj reached the middle of a large Yavana army. Although he killed many, he himself got surrounded in such a way that it became difficult to get out. At this time Jaitray used a trick. He took off the umbrella from Prithviraj's head and placed it on his own head. Jaitrai was killed. Chamundarai was also killed after a while. Gururam was also killed in today's battle. Although the Rajputs showed great valour and started fighting without caring about their lives, yet the sun of India's independence was about to set forever in today's battle, so Samarsingh ji was also killed while fighting. And by evening the Kuldipak of Chauhan dynasty Prithviraj was also killed. Unfortunately for India, this brave man was killed at the age of only 46. The sun of India's good fortune set from that day itself.<sup>37</sup>

### **According to Raso Last Days of Prithviraj Chauhan**

## Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against

---

There is a lot of disagreement among historians about the last days of Prithviraj. Raso is of the opinion that Shahabuddin captured Prithviraj and took him to Ghazni and put him in prison. Prithviraj first tried many ways to get released, but when he could not succeed in any way, he stopped eating. On this Shahabuddin himself went to convince him, but on seeing Shahabuddin, Prithviraj got angry, turned his eyes red and started looking at him and saying bitter things. On this Shahabuddin got angry and got his eyes gouged out. Due to the loss of eyes, Prithviraj's condition became very weak. Now he started repenting his deeds. He started thinking in his mind that he killed Kaimas for a prostitute, imprisoned brave Chamundaray for an elephant and got so many of his soldiers and feudal lords killed for Sanyogita and other queens to satisfy his lust and sensuality and he was so fascinated by Sanyogita's beauty that he even left the rule of the kingdom. Prithviraj started repenting by remembering his deeds in this way. On the other hand, when this war was over, somehow poet Chand came out of the temple and after hearing the news of his master's plight, he reached Ghazni. With great difficulty he went to Shahabuddin in Ghazni and by pleasing him, he got permission to meet Prithviraj. There he saw Prithviraj's plight with his own eyes and became very upset. At the same time, the thought of taking revenge from Shahabuddin arose in his heart.<sup>38</sup>

Kavi Chand trapped Shahabuddin in the web of his words and said that Prithviraj knows how to shoot Shabdbedhi arrows. He had asked me to show him this feat in my childhood, but I did not get the opportunity. Now you can see it and I will also see it and fulfill my wish. There was a lot of debate on this matter. Muhammad Gauri's ministers refused to give him permission, but Shahabuddin's curiosity had increased so much by Kavi Chand's words that he gave permission.<sup>39</sup>

Prithviraj had become very weak at this time. As per the request of Kavi Chand, he was given nutritious food for a few days. After this, one day preparations were made for the show. Seven pans were hung and blind Prithviraj was brought and made to stand. Kavi Chand quietly explained the purpose of this show to Prithviraj. He also told Shahabuddin that if you do not give permission, Prithviraj will not shoot the arrow. Therefore, before shooting the arrow, you will have to give him permission to shoot the arrow, because he is your prisoner and your dependent.<sup>40</sup>

Prithviraj was given the bow. As soon as he strung it, the bow broke. Finally, Prithviraj's bow was given to him. Prithviraj became happy as soon as he held the bow. He strung the bow. The dying Shahabuddin ordered to give the quiver as well. At the same time, poet Chand encouraged Prithviraj in a very powerful language and said that you have a

# Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against

---

weapon in your hand, a frying pan in front of you and Shah is sitting on your left. Now strengthen your heart and use this opportunity. Prithviraj also said that it is true, you will not get such an opportunity again. I will definitely do as you say.<sup>41</sup>

Despite being surrounded by enemies from all sides, Prithviraj stood up as soon as he got his bow in his hands and waited for Shahabuddin's orders. First the bows were struck and then Shahabuddin roared. On hearing the roar, Prithviraj shot an arrow that hit Shahabuddin right in the mouth and broke the palate and went out. Shahabuddin lay there writhing and thrashing his hands and legs. There was a lot of uproar. At the same time, people ran to kill Kavi Chand, but he took out a knife and stabbed it in his stomach with his own hands and then gave it to Prithviraj. Prithviraj stabbed the knife in his heart and thus Prithviraj ended his life by suicide.<sup>42</sup>

## According to Others Scholar Last Days of Prithviraj Chauhan

This is the description of "Prithviraj Raso". The same story is popular in homes too, but it is hard to believe that a brave man like Prithviraj was going to easily fall into the hands of the enemy or surrender. Apart from this, the opinion of other historians is also contrary to this. They say that Prithviraj was killed on the battlefield itself.<sup>43</sup>

Hunter Sahib says that in 1193 AD, Muslims again attacked Punjab. Prithviraj, the king of Delhi and Ajmer, was defeated and killed. His queen Sanyogita committed sati with his dead body.<sup>44</sup>

Tabakat-i-Nasiri has a different opinion. He says that Prithviraj was caught and killed by Shahabuddin. In this regard, Minhaj, the author of Tabaqat-i-Nasiri, has written that Prithviraj was fighting on an elephant, but on seeing his defeat, he got down from the elephant and fled from the battlefield on a horse, but was caught on the banks of Saraswati and the Yavans killed him.<sup>45</sup>

Vicente Smith and other historians have also accepted this. All of them have accepted that Prithviraj was killed on the battlefield and this seems to be really believable and authentic.<sup>46</sup>

## Conclusion

Prithviraj died. Along with that, the Hindu empire in India also ended. When the news of Prithviraj's death reached Delhi, a thick cloud of grief engulfed the entire city of Delhi. The

## **Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against**

---

fort of Pithoragarh became an embodiment of grief. The entire city of Delhi trembled with the wailing of the people, the wailing of the queens and the terror of the enemies. Everyone started waiting for the arrival of the enemies with a gloomy heart. Everyone started thinking that Delhi would now actually turn into a crematorium. That is what happened. Queen Sanyogita sat on the pyre and burned herself to death as soon as she heard the news of Prithviraj's death. Prithviraj's sister Pritha, wife of Rawal Samarsingh ji, also followed her husband by sitting on the pyre. Prithviraj's other queens also died in the same way to meet their husbands.

After this, the Yavana army reached Delhi. Although Prithviraj's son Renu Singh fought them, he could not stand against the huge army for long and died fighting. Delhi started getting looted. The city residents were killed and many people were tied with the terrible shackles of slavery. In this way, Delhi turned into a crematorium.

The Yavana army started spreading slowly. Jaichand also could not escape from this fire and was burnt in it. India degraded and became a slave forever. Shahabuddin devastated Ajmer and Delhi and moved towards Kannauj. He established his authority over Kannauj. Jaichand and Shahabuddin's army faced each other at a place called Chandawar. Jaichand lost and was killed. After looting Kannauj, Shahabuddin looted Banaras. This time he took the looted goods to his country by loading them on 14000 camels. It cannot be proved true that Jaichand drowned in the Ganga after fleeing from the fort due to the sinking of the boat.

### **Conclusion**

According to Vincent Smith, Delhi and Kannauj fell between 1193 and 1194. After this, it was the turn of Banaras. In 1196, Gwalior was captured by the Muslims and in 1197, the capital of Gujarat, Anhilwara, was conquered by the enemies. In 1203, Kalinjar was also captured by the Muslims. In this way, by 1206, the Muslim empire was established in many places of India. By paying attention to these events, it is clear that Prithviraj was the main obstacle to the establishment of the Muslim empire in India. Due to his bravery, patience and war skills, India could not be ruled by the Yavanas, because as soon as he died, the existence of Hindu kings started to slowly end. Vincent Smith has also praised the bravery of Prithviraj. Among the kings of that time, Jaichand's army was highly praised. His kingdom was also very large, but it is not known why he could not stop the Yavanas. Perhaps the reason for this may also be the terrible war at the time of the abduction of Sanyogita.

# Prithviraj Chauhan III: His Glorious Resistance Against

---

## Notes and References

1. Dr. V.B. Singh, '*Prithviraj Chauhan*', Notion Press, Chennai, 2021, p. 5
2. Virendra Singh Rathore, '*Prithviraj Chauhan: A Light on the Mist in History*', White Falcon Publishing, Punjab, 2020, pp. 37-38
3. *Ibid*, p. 42
4. *Ibid*
5. Unknown Writer, Maple Press, '*Prithviraj Chauhan, ( Based on Prithviraj Raso)*', Maple Press Private Limited, Noida, 2023, p. 40
6. Virendra Singh Rathore, *op.cit.*, p. 53
7. *Ibid*
8. *Ibid*, p. 54
9. *Ibid*, p. 107
10. *Ibid*
11. *Ibid*, pp. 107-108
12. *Ibid*, p. 108
13. Darshnik Rajveer Singh, '*Mahan Raja Prithviraj Chauhan*' (*Hindi Book*), Penguin Books India Pvt Ltd, Hariyana, 2011, pp. 7-8
14. *Ibid*, p. 8
15. *Ibid*
16. *Ibid*, pp. 8-9
17. *Ibid*, p. 9
18. Unknown Writer, '*Prithviraj Chauhan, ( Based on Prithviraj Raso)*', *op.cit.*, p. 42
19. *Ibid*, p. 43
20. *Ibid*
21. Satish Chandra, '*Madhyakalin Bharat: Rajniti, Samaj, or Sanskriti*', Orient BlackSwan, Delhi, 2019, p. 66
22. Virendra Singh Rathore, *op.cit.*, p. 110
23. Satish Chandra, *op.cit.*, p. 67
24. Stanley Lane-Poole, '*The Story of The Nations: Medieval India Under Mohammedan Rule, 712-1764*', G. P. Putnam's Sons, London, 1993, p. 51
25. Virendra Singh Rathore, *op.cit.*, pp. 113-114
26. *Ibid*, p. 114
27. *Ibid*
28. Stanley Lane-Poole, *op.cit.*, p. 51
29. Virendra Singh Rathore, *op.cit.*, pp. 114-115
30. Satish Chandra, *op.cit.*, p. 67
31. Stanley Lane-Poole, *op.cit.*, p. 52
32. Virendra Singh Rathore, *op.cit.*, p. 123
33. *Ibid*, p. 125
34. Satish Chandra, *op.cit.*, p. 67
35. Virendra Singh Rathore, *op.cit.*, p. 127
36. Satish Chandra, *op.cit.*, p. 67
37. Unknown Writer, '*Prithviraj Chauhan, ( Based on Prithviraj Raso)*', *op.cit.*, pp. 112-114
38. *Ibid*, pp. 114-115
39. *Ibid*
40. *Ibid*, pp. 115-116
41. *Ibid*, p. 116
42. *Ibid*, pp. 116-117
43. *Ibid*, p. 117
44. *Ibid*
45. *Ibid*
46. *Ibid*