

## CASE STUDY HISTORY (DELHI SULTANATE )

Sher Shah Suri (1486 – 22 May 1545), born as Farīd Khān, was the founder of the Suri Empire in India, with its capital in Sasaram in modern-day Bihar. He introduced the currency of rupee. An ethnic Afghan ruler, Sher Shah took control of the Mughal Empire in 1540. After his accidental death in 1545, his son Islam Shah became his successor. His surname 'Suri' was taken from his Pashtun Sur tribe. He was a distant kinsman to Babur's brother-in-law, Mir Shah Jamal, who remained loyal to Humayun.

The name *Sher* (means *lion* or *tiger* in the older pronunciation of Persian) was conferred upon him for his courage, when as a young man, he killed a tiger that leapt suddenly upon the king of Bihar.

He first served as a private before rising to become a commander in the Mughal army under Babur and then the governor of Bihar. In 1537, when Babur's son Humayun was elsewhere on an expedition, Sher Shah overran the state of Bengal and established the Suri dynasty. A brilliant strategist, Sher Shah proved himself as a gifted Muslim administrator as well as a capable general. His reorganization of the empire laid the foundations for the later Mughal emperors, notably Akbar, son of Humayun.

During his five-year rule from 1540 to 1545, he set up a new economic and military administration, issued the first *Rupiya* from "Tanka" and organized the postal system of the Indian Subcontinent.

Some of his strategies and contributions were later idolized by the Mughal emperors, most notably Akbar. Suri further developed Humayun's *Dina-panah* city and named it Shergarh and revived the historical city of Pataliputra, which had been in decline since the 7th century CE, as Patna.

He extended the Grand Trunk Road from Chittagong in the frontiers of the province of Bengal in northeast India to Kabul in Afghanistan in the far northwest of the country. The influence of his innovations and reforms extended far beyond his brief reign; his arch foe, Humayun, referred to him as "Ustad-I-Badshahan", teacher of kings. In this years of his reign he never lost a battle.

### ANSWERS THE QUESTIONS

1. During which time Sher Shah ruled India?
2. Name 2 administrative arrangements of Sher Shah?
3. Which cities revived by him?
4. Name the capital of Sher Shah?
5. Which title given to Sher Shah by his arch foe?
6. From which tribe he belonged to?
7. What was his original name?
8. Who succeeded Sher Shah?
9. During his early time ,Sher Shah worked under whom?
- 10.Which ruler followed his administrative strategy ?