

Answer Key to Exercise

- A. 1. his nephew Alauddin Khalji
2. Gujarat
3. intermarry without the permission of the sultan
4. *dag* and *chehra*
5. were special officers who were appointed to supervise over the dealings in each *mandi*.
- B. 1. False 2. True 3. False 4. True 5. True
- C. Mewar Rajput
Devagiri Yadava
Madurai Pandya
Warangal Kakatiya
Dwarasamudra Hoysala
- D. 1. Malwa and Kanauj were the two cities in northern India that were captured by Alauddin Khalji. (Answers may vary)
2. An efficient espionage system was built up across the empire by Alauddin Khalji to keep a strict vigil on the activities of the nobility and to curb their powers so that they do not challenge the supreme authority of the sultan.
3. Even though Alauddin conducted extensive expedition in southern India, he did not annex these kingdoms. Rather, he allowed the defeated monarchs to rule their territories in return for accepting the suzerainty of the sultan and paying him tributes.
4. *Chehra* was one of the military reforms that was introduced by Alauddin Khalji to prevent corruption. *Chehra* was a descriptive roll of soldiers.
Mandis refer to the three markets that were established by Alauddin Khalji in Delhi for foodgrains; expensive goods like sugar and dried fruits; and for horses, cattle, and slaves.
- E. 1. Alauddin Khalji took a strong military policy against the repeated Mongol attacks. He reorganized the army and introduced various reforms in the army. Other aspects of his administration were also influenced to some extent by his military needs. His reign witnessed numerous Mongol invasions that were repelled due to the strong defence system that was established by the sultan. Alauddin took the following measures for protecting his empire from the Mongols:
- Maintaining a huge and competent standing army
 - Repairing the old forts along the route of the Mongols and building new ones
 - Posting the best generals in the north-western frontiers
 - Killing the Mongols who were captured during wars and those who had settled in Delhi during the reign of Jalaluddin mercilessly

2. Alauddin Khalji brought about some important military reforms in the face of the constant threat of Mongol attacks. He was the first sultan of Delhi to create a standing army. On the other hand, he prohibited nobles from maintaining armies. Alauddin also introduced a number of measures to strengthen his army. Army officials were chosen with great care and had to undergo rigorous training. Soldiers were paid their salaries in cash and the amount of the salary was fixed. Alauddin also introduced two systems—*dagh* and *chehra*— to prevent corruption. *Dagh* was a system of branding the superior-quality horses for the use of the army to prevent their substitution by inferior ones. *Chehra* was a descriptive roll of soldiers. Spies were maintained in each unit of the army.
3. Alauddin introduced various changes in the existing revenue system in order to increase the income of the sultanate. The entire land under cultivation was measured and categorized on the basis of fertility. The revenue was then fixed according to the fertility of the land. In some areas the rate of revenue was increased. For instance, the Doab region had to pay half of their produce as revenue. Peasants had to pay their revenue in cash, and the revenue was collected directly. Special officials were appointed by the sultan, who collected the revenue directly from the peasants. This system eliminated the presence of middlemen in the collection of revenue.
4. Alauddin's market policy was aimed at making goods cheaper. The prices of all the essential commodities were reduced and fixed by the sultan. Merchants and shopkeepers were asked to sell goods at prices specified by the sultan only. Any violation or cheating was harshly punished. Spies were appointed to keep a vigil on the merchants. He established three markets, or *mandis*, in Delhi for foodgrains; for expensive goods like sugar and dried fruit; and for horses, cattle, and slaves. A special officer—*shahna*—was appointed to supervise over the dealings in each *mandi*. He was called *shahna-i-mandi*. The weights and measures were standardized. Warehouses were built in Delhi to store foodgrains. These foodgrains were released in times of famine or shortage. The necessity of such a market policy was to maintain a large army at a low cost. The salary of the soldiers was reduced in comparison to before. Therefore, increasing the revenue was not enough; Alauddin had to ensure that the soldiers were being able to meet their needs within the salary they got. The result was his market control policy.
5. Alauddin was a great patron of literature and art. Amir Khusrau, a famous Persian poet, lived in his court. A number of important architectures were built during his reign. The most famous among them is the Alai Darwaza—a gateway to the Qutb complex. He also built a madrasa and an unfinished tower (Alai Minar) in that complex. The Siri Fort, the Hauzi-Alai (a large tank built for the residents of Siri, now known as Hauz Khas), and the Qasr-i-Hazar Sutoon (palace of thousand pillars) are some other examples of Khalji architecture.