CONCLUSION
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Conclusion is very important in all the researches and it is the final explanation about the findings of the research work, more accurately to say the new information which included in the work. My topic includes the periods of complete two centuries i.e. 14th to 16th centuries A.D. a very crucial period as Delhi Sultanate already established and became strong in spite of the changing of dynasties up to the advent of Mughals in northern India. The establishment of Muslim rule brought number of new things to India as they were outsiders and belongs to various socio-cultural backgrounds. Constant contacts with their homeland continue and a various categories people like Sufis, scholars, bureaucrats, and soldiers with divergent objectives continually coming to India. Resulted into the mixing of a society, culture, polity and economy with the existing Indian society and culture all these had far reaching significance. South India also not saved from the foreign influence as it had trade relation with Arabs from ancient time and in the beginning of 16th century European also approached which without doubt influenced the society and culture of the region. Delhi Sultanate also penetrate in south during 14th century first by Alauddin Khilji and then Muhammad bin Tughlaq who even shift his capital to Deogir (Daulatabad) but due to loss of direct control of Delhi, internal disturbances in north India Deogir lost its importance which it gained, but the people who settled in the region founded Bahamani kingdom. They remained in contact with the north and rest of world particularly with central Asia and Arabs. On the other hand the powerful Vijayanagar Empire was also founded by Harihara and Bukka which was an excellent symbol of Indian polity and culture. Society and culture always varied from region to region between community to community due to number of factors like region, religion, language, education, technology geography, economy, climate, trade outside contacts etc. The present thesis deals with society and culture of India based on the information provided by the foreign travelers who visited to India between 14th and 16th centuries A.D. for various purposes. The trend of visitor to India is very old and some of these visitors wrote their experiences which proved useful for reconstructing and reaching closed to the authenticity of events happened in India’s past. Though there are number of criticism on the writings of travelers but the introduction of India to world was because of these people. It is necessary to make clear what I feels and found while studying the accounts in spite of criticism and drawbacks of the
travelers’ accounts, their contribution is brilliant and precious. Their importance surpasses the lacunas made willingly or unwillingly by the authors, the narrators’ writers and the copyists. The local accounts consult upper classes and paucity of information about life and condition of the common people. The reason might be that history for them is related only to royalty or they got favour praise only from them and the general masses hardly possess importance for them. Moreover belonging to same society and culture contributed in the ignorance of their socio-cultural life.

Foreigners were unfamiliar to Indian culture and society and everything here was new and unique to them which influenced and force them to note down for the benefits, interest of their countrymen who wished to come here as the glory of India’s richness was popular in west from the time of Greeks. May be they also wants to get fame, reward but anyway their actions resulted in the reconstruction and coming close to the authenticity of history? Much placement in this work is occupied by the socio-cultural life of south India particularly the Vijayanagar Empire and the Malabar Coast because most of the travelers of this period visit these regions. The visitor of Northern India paid visit to south India like Ibn i Battuta, Syedi Ali Reis and Ralph Fitch but rest confined in coastal regions which were involved largely in trade. The discovery of the sea route to India by Vasco da Gama opened the doors for the European to have direct contacts with India. In the process people starts coming to India with the fleets to join the services of their nations or independently for trade purposes and proved valuable for history due to their writings. They wonderfully describe the caste system, customs and manners of the people of all categories with different features. Dress and diets, fair sand festivals, ceremonies religion and its institutions, architecture, character of Indian ruler, judicial and medical and education system these are the important aspects which I discussed in my thesis and also little light on polity, economy, geography etc.

Social system is very rude and the high class people the rulers, aristocrats, priests enjoyed number of privileges whereas the low class people lived deplorable life without having any basics rights and there is a huge difference in the castes in terms of all aspects of life. Nayres enjoyed good fate on one hand on the other hand they were not allowed by the king to marry because by which they fall in burden and not able to serve the rulers. It seems that by stopping them from occupying a wife they got maximum favours and services from them and they were allowed to meet
their desires with the women of low castes and it became a well organised customs which no one object. On the other hand the lower castes do all the menial work and subjected to untouchables kept away from all the matters of the state and society and they accept all this that their religion implies these restrictions to them and they have no right to object all these discriminations. This was a well organised caste system of the upper castes to enjoy a good fate at the cost of poor and weak. They were kept away from temples and not allowed to live within the circle of towns but separate colonies for them developed and permitted to enter for services on fixed time. The high castes hide themselves to avoid meeting.

Brahmins besides enjoying privileges also got all the offerings in the temples and they were rich as the temple received huge amount of offerings from the rich as well as poor throughout the year and lived lavish life by this money. In a way by posing themselves as interpreter between God and man they make the other caste ignorant by not allowing their access to the religious scriptures and their innovations were so deep rooted in the society that no one dared to challenge them. In case someone goes against their organised manner they with full force and resources and by using religion stopped him and made whole society against that person. Even the people within the family go against him and accept the verdict even it was death sentence for that person.

The study about the life and condition of the women expose number of facts and the presence of gender in equality is common in almost all the societies and quite low percentage of women enjoyed freedom and good fate. These women particularly belongs to royal class either in the forms of wives, soldiers, accountants, servants and concubines. In the kingdom of Vijayanagar beautiful girls were searched and brought to the palaces for the use of rulers and nobles as mentioned in the account of Abdur Razzaq. Though with the consent of their parents but their rights were crushed as they have to live a life of slavery. Whereas the common women do not have basics rights and are forced for slavery and concubinage. The women who refused to burn themselves were forced for shaving the hairs of their head donated to temple property in south India. Dedication of virginity to the idols as well as not marrying a virgin girl custom is very rude and nasty.

One important thing which had similarity today that the clean and beautiful women were appointed in the markets to attracts the customers to buy the goods from
them. To some extent resembles today as in advertising the goods the businessmen and companies used their images and adds on television. Receptionist in the private companies’ hospitals, school, and colleges’ are beautiful girls for catching the attention of customers.

The other page of their condition which was associated with the Muslims women. Duarte Barbosa accepted that the women of Bengal and Cambay enjoyed good life because in spite of marrying four wives their husband maintained them very well and provided all the facilities. However in general the women condition is deplorable prevailed in all the communities.

Slave system was a business at that time and the Portuguese also involved in this trade and even the children were not saved from this, they were used to work in the fields, at homes and number of other work. Larger the number of slaves great the honour of the masters. Rulers like Muhammad Tughlaq and Firouz Tughlaq are found of slaves and recruited large number of them which later destroyed their masters. Some slaves also roused to high positions with their capabilities but their percentage is very low and majority of them denied from the basic rights.

The customs and manners are different but some of the bad notions are visible which today either extinct or sustained with different arrangements. The life of the warrior class of south India, the Nayres was strange. Presence of matriarchal families is a different topic but the superstitions and the wide range of the rites and rituals associated with their birth, youth, marriage and death are quite astonishing. Travelers observed and beautifully explained them and almost all had same stand with very marginal differences.

The rulers of India show great arrogance pride, splendour, grandeur on different occasion. For example while going on war, returning after victory, celebrating festivals they with great enthusiasm distribute wealth among their favourites and alms to the poor and needy. This all done for creating fear among their opponents and to suppress the weaker section that they are invincible as well as protector of their life and property.

There are so many customs and ceremonies I noticed in India which shows the influence of both Muslims and non Muslims cultures on each other. Reciting of Quran known today as Quran Khawani on the grave of the decease or at home and
organising feasts for poor and priestly class people on the death of a person in vogue during 14th century as mentioned by Battuta. This process continues for forty consecutive days and celebrated annually as well. Thus the custom had very long roots not the recent invention. Non Muslim too celebrates the death anniversary by calling Brahmins for reciting their scriptures and cooks food varieties and distributes alms. In some cases the women grief stands round the dead with their body uncovered from waist and beat their chest by shouting Alas? Alas? One sings a song in the admiration of dead while rests answer it by beating their chests. The women beating their chests still exist among some societies of sub continent.

Indians particularly the non Muslims neither dine nor drink or shake hands and touches with other religious classes proved and accepted by foreign travelers. Similar case noticed by Battuta about a Sufi who also follow this tradition perhaps due to the influence of non Muslim otherwise in Islam no such restrictions imposed.

In some cases people were buried along with material of their use as observed and seen by Nikittin and made strong domes on graves to protect the dead body for long time.

Child marriage practice is also visible in the society. The logic behind the child marriages perhaps that when a person dies the wife also buried with him thus the children have their in laws who take care of them. The other reason most probably was that more children make more work forces in agriculture and the early marriages also contributed in it. The influence of religion for child marriages was not negligible.

Before burning the body of rulers in Malabar an enquiry was made by a council for three days to confirm whether he died due to natural death or killed by a conspiracy. On the death though for some days fishing and killing was stopped but people associated with it were given food from the deceased king property. Whereas among Muslims the palace of the ruler was abandoned and all objects of his use kept in his residence.

Lot of customs associated with the pilgrimage tours, bathing in the river Ganga and in dirty water of tanks built by Nayres for purification. No doubt Ganga is a mighty river and its water used for irrigation purposes as well as fishing and transporting facilities within this river that is why people treat it scared and worship
but bathing in the impure water was out of understanding it was definitely the influence of false superstition in their mind.

The food items were praised by all the travelers and say that so much varieties were not available anywhere in world thus it could be understood that India is advance then other countries. The flora and fauna the varying climate was highly praised and noticed by the foreigners.

The respect to the teacher was inborn habit of the Indians and they were given utter reverence and respect even the student was of advance age, caste and economic status keep standing till the teacher sits. Whenever a Nayre meets with whom who taught him something he shows him great reverence and then go and wash himself. Teacher was so much respected that even the king stands up when he arrived and both bend to each other. If a senior met on the way the junior keep side and allow him first to pass. Similarly the elder people were very much respected and treated well. The elder brother when sitting anywhere rest of all brothers keep standing. They respect their relatives and brethren great, the smaller in the attendance of elders meetings remained silent and replies only seeking from them. These norms and values were of great importance and respected and still such social values strongly hold the societies and families of Indian sub continent. Similarly the respect to mothers was inborn quality among the Indians. Not only have the common people even the ruler like Muhammad Tughlaq kisses the feet of his mother seen by Battuta. All the Mughal rulers had great reverence for their mothers. It seems that the women who were suppressed gain some power and respect after her children grow as the disrespect to mother was a sin believed by Indian and this argument was also supported by the religion.

Honesty also prevailed among Indians if the ship was lost in the sea and the goods recovered from it were not given to anybody till its original owner come. In some cases in south India if someone complaint about theft and on recovering the goods and the thief the goods goes to government treasury as the justice done.

Ceremonies of marriages, festivals, coronation, and knighthood are understood and not to be criticisable but the oath giving process to the criminal is rude and inhuman. How it is possible that the hot iron rod not hurt the tongue and the
injuries healed within seven days. Similarly the selling of the women to the foreigners how were touched by the low castes people is a serious crime.

The rulers of Malabar Coast were old mostly because of the succession process and lack of succession conflicts. Successor was the eldest son of the king’s eldest sister and all the brothers succeed one after the other that is why their age was old. If there was no brother than the nephews the sons of eldest sister become the heirs. In case the sister did not produce a son then a council was held in which someone relative of the king was raised to the throne and if not so they elect the person who was best from all. Thus merit considered at last stage when there was no alternative. Besides that all the people pledged on oath ceremony, including the relatives the apparent heirs the nobles that they will provide full help and support in order to reduce the chance of revolt and if someone tries all support the king to crush for the sake of pledge. In Calicut the new king removed all the previous officials and very few of them retained their position and the new one chosen was of king choice. The rule of succession was astonishing and hereditary.

In economics and accounting jobs Indians were exceedingly sharp and deem all their sums on fingers. Interest on the money took the shape of efficient institution that even the closest of their relations not speared and their main ideal was income. They were sober in expenditure and costs. This is true even today the business class earnings are good and they mostly lived well off life but one thing must be understood that the foreigners here mostly consulted with the big merchants and not the people who were engaged in small scale mercantile activities there are so many who with difficulty meet their daily expenses on those days as well as present.

Foreign travelers compared the business class of Indians with Italians and secretarial and writing style of computation was parallel to Portuguese. Indians mostly had the upper hand in trade matters though some Muslims also involved. Gujaratis influenced the foreigner and testified by the native sources that they were intelligent people in this matter. Indians were the cream people of business with its full knowledge and any offence in it was not tolerated and punished strictly. The praise of traders of Gujarat was due to their hard work and keen interest with so many difficulties; in those days as transport and communication was not strong they were found all over India. Some accounts praised them that they not tolerate cheating with them and not cheat others while other called these great liars and cheaters. The trader
class sons when reached ten years of age they begin dealings of trade with little coins for exchanging.

In the praise of Indians the Arabian writer compare them with *Sabians* who were Jews converted to Muslim in terms of their intelligence and wise.

Merchants of Cairo, Khurasan, and Gullians Ormuz and Aden had flourishing sea trade but in no way matched with Indians in its understanding. Tome Pires quotations needed to be carefully analysed. He suggested his countrymen and all the European that if they wants to be clerks and factors they should come to India to learn, because the business of trade is a science in itself which does not hinder any other people exercise, but helps a great deal. Comparison the traders of India with the Jews also found in the writing of travelers. This statement proved that the trade activities as well as the production of India is far strong and highly demanded in world at that time.

Some merchants were very rich and their houses are like palaces and got place in the writings of travelers. They without any support built mosques, temples gardens and some of them are owner of fifty large ships. Merchant class though enjoyed good life and have the chances of developing their talents and therefore they dominated it. On the other hand the low caste people were also so much devoted to their occupation that their talent in their fields was in no way inferior to the upper castes.

The astrologers’ caste had great knowledge of astronomy and letters they estimate the future which so many times prove true. Their reputation in the art was very high and nobles maintained them at their expenses even the king through their secretaries consult them in important matters. Businessmen did not go on voyages without their consent. Some of them are magicians and had controlled over demons and used them for treating of many diseases or their influence on the people. These people maintained themselves by this art and no one challenge their predictions. By this we understand that castes were dependent on each other as well as the talent of low castes was highlighted.

Almost people of all the major religion of world lived in India in peace and harmony and the differences and conflicts if emerged at some places are due to political controversies and sometimes exploited by the beneficiaries. No doubt in some cases the religion play important role but the superstitions associated with the religion like the burning of women with husband, making them temple property,
dedication of virginity to idols, sacrifices of human beings as well as animals are
guided and planed by the religious heads. But one more thing which I feel that most
of the travelers tried to glorify their own religion for example the Muslim travelers
praised the Muslims laws and regulations and the rulers and criticise the social system
and sometimes to the ruling class of non Muslims in some areas. On the other hand
the European bitterly criticise the Muslims and the people like Verthama and
Linschoten used rubbish languages and called them pigs, fool, ignorant and so on. In
comparison to the Muslims accounts they criticise the Indian religion and
superstitions strongly. Verthema lies that Sultan Mahmood Baigara eat poison and so
much lustrous that he had four thousands women in his herm and daily sleeps with
one of them and the next morning she will found died which is totally incorrect.

Eating in gold utensils for all and wearing silk cloths for men were prohibited
in Islam but the rich Muslims and the rulers used them on large scale to show their
grandeur. At the same time they adopt more than four wives and maintained large
harem which again anti Islamic. For proving this the ruler like Akbar who was a
Sunni by birth preferred Muta marriages which were strictly prohibited among Sunni
Muslims. Inflicts severe punishments without caring the religion waging illegal wars,
killing of innocent people, capturing innocent women and makes them slaves.
Maintaining large harem also popular among non Muslims all this shows that high
class people deviate from religion to full fill their desires.

One more thing is that Indian had the custom of treating outsider on
humanitarian ground well and the reason of that here settled a large number of
migrants from very earlier times which some of the travelers and the westerner take a
foolish activity and calls the Indian the fool and ignorant people but this ignorance
inbuilt in Indians by their norms and values. However caste system did not absorbed
them with complete rights and privileges and called them as Malechas a place lower
than Shudras.

On the other hand the ascetic class like the Sufis and Jogis flourished all over
the country and people were attached with them. They were not interested in politics
and earning money and majority of them work for the welfare of humanity in order to
gain the well wishes of God. Religious toleration among the Indians in a way
provoked by these people and peace and harmony was practised.
Music was well developed and special destination called as Tarabad in almost all the kingdoms were maintained. It was a kind of profession for the people who involved in it. Same as today there are institutions of the entertainment like cinema. At that time similar decorations and the dance of the women in particular appreciated it was present in the same fashion and the difference seems to be the more income, rights and choice. Because at that time the dancing girls were mostly slaves and they were not free like the present.

Artisans and their skills were beyond mentioning, they are expert in making wonderful jewellery, buildings, dresses, and their artefacts are famous all over world and in high demand. Their skills in different matters are praiseworthy and the traders of all parts of world deals with Indian goods and gain more and more profit and in that race they even fought wars among each other.

They made the images of the rulers in such a way that they look alive and will talk soon. The beautification of the portraits was excellent and has no match, from queens, kings high class people up to the beggars and blinds of the country were depicted in paintings. All stages of human life depicts on the paintings of wall which forced everyone to think about the ability of Indian Artisans. The finishing of artificial jewellery, precious stones, cloths, was so excellent that it is very difficult to recognised the original and duplicate. Indian Artisans were so much famous that Timur along with plundered wealth also captured number of artisans to Samarqand for constructing buildings resembles with India.

The medical system of India is good from ancient time and it produces famous persons associated with medical. Ayurved was the basic method of treatment in India and the medicines prepared from herbs and fruits used for treating varying health problems proved that they had good knowledge of medical.

Sexual transmitted disease were found even in those days the Portuguese soldiers who made relations with unchaste women were caught with severe infections which sometimes take their lives.

India had very good foreign relations including trade, cultural, political and religious. Diplomatic exchanges took place as in case of Muhammad Bin Tughlaq with China and Vijayanagar with Portuguese and Persians. Economy plays vital role in soothing good relations. Though political and religious matters sometime affected the relations example are the relation between Tarmashirin and the ruler of Egypt and
Muhammad Tughlaq against the ruler of Persia. Chinese who had the religious centres of Buddhism in India they too want more concessions. Similarly the Muslims had deep attachment with the Arabs the Muslim rulers of India are mostly belongs to foreign nations and Muslim dominated regions. Muhammad bin Tughlaq sent huge amount of money to these countries testified by travelers and other contemporary sources. The Muslim rulers help the religious scholars, Sufis, and poor people of these nations with the amount of revenue which they collect from Indian states. They preferred them and when European reached for trade purposes their intentions and policies were hindered by the Arab traders with the support of Muslim aristocracy settled here from centuries. European now tried to win over the opponent of Muslim in the form of their Hindu counterpart and they very well used the internal conflicts of the Indian rulers. Cabral fleet fight with the Muslim traders in Calicut where number of people killed because of not receiving the good favour at Calicut he went to Cochin.

The behaviour of Portuguese after capturing Goa with the rest of religions was not hidden and makes relation strained. The intention of Portuguese in the beginning was economic which later includes political and religious because the trade before them was the monopoly of the Arabs and India mostly was under the Muslim rulers and being co- religious they preferred Arabs more than them and on the other hand they intermix with Indian well and are in good relation with them due to contacts from a long time. Under these circumstances Portuguese were not in a position to gain much trade benefits so they start interfering in political and religious matters and succeeded in this mission but their religious extremism later proved one of the factors for their downfall.

Muslims did not interfere in the religious matters of non Muslims and their success in ruling the majority well and long was the proof of their tolerance and secular nature. Syedi Ali Reis says that in Gujarat Muslim ruler not stop them from following their customs and Battuta also support this view point. Kingdoms where Muslims are ruling non Muslims had full freedom to enjoy their customs and tradition unless they did not revolt against the ruler or stop paying the taxes whereas Portuguese prohibited number of superstitions in Goa and did not allow any person after accepting Christianity to follow the customs of his earlier religion but Muslims even actively participate in number of their festivals and they too.
In one of the expedition of Francisco de Almeida a city was defended by both the communities and heavily suffered. Same as in battle of Khanwa some Muslims sided Rana Sangha thus the unity of Hindu Muslim prevailed and the courage of defending their territories and the people of their country was inborn quality among the Indians. Muslims also served in the army of Vijayanagar and even they construct the mosques in the city. It proves that Indians are not religious bigotry but peaceful people who did not want to harm others. In Vijayanagar people of all religion enjoyed full freedom to profess their creed and equality of justice prevailed not only among the rulers but also among the common people for follower of all religions.

The character of Indian ruling class was mixed including lavish and pleasures seeking, generosity, cruelty, kind hearted, and religious all these qualities imbibed in them. For example Muhammad bin Tughlaq on one side was a generous who not only help the masses of his own country but to the foreign nations also, offer prayers regularly and knows the Quran and jurisprudence well but on the other side he was cruel removed his opponents with extreme cruelty. Anyone have access to his court and also the representative who will file the petitions and he pursues justice.

King of Vijayanagar almost possessed the same qualities with the minor difference of religious matters. Their generosity exceeds to the people of their own country and cruelty also than the outsiders. They also start wars against their opponents and favours to their supporters. Malabar Coast kings were treated more divine and no one had access to them or permitted to speak and touch the king and a stick was used to avoid the direct touch.

The treasures of Vijayanagar and the kingdom of Delhi were enormous. They had number of subjugated king who pay regular duties as well as they plundered the area which they invade livid huge taxes on trade, and other things. Their nobles and the women of the court were also rich the example I discussed in the chapters.

Almost all the traveler while describing about India accepted having feared that the reader could not believe on them about the riches and wealth of India. Some take the pledge before mentioning that God suffice whatever they wrote or told was true and they did not exaggerate.

The jewels which were utilized in the decoration of the horse of its ruler were more than the riches of cities of Europe accepted by Paes and others too. People
standing on the hills to watch the celebrations and beats the drums and throws arrows and enjoying in Vijayanagar are countless. While participating in the celebrations and watching the grandeur and treasures they says that it looks to them that they were in dream.

Most of the ruling class people maintained large number of women for their pleasures for example Krishna Deo Rai 4000, Achutya Rai 500, Akbar 800, and the Calicut ruler 1000 to 1500. The number might vary due to confusion for the unknowns because they might considers all the women in the Harem as ruler wives but in reality all of them had different duties to performed as they were employer or slaves but the actual thing that they maintained large harem was proved. They spent huge amount on them which was clear as these women were for the use of king who can they lived a poor life.

Public welfare activities were carried in good scale by constructing long roads with the facility of shelter and food hospitals, schools etc. The daily wagers were available for taking the goods of people where beast of burden not available. Soldiers were also appointed for the safety of travelers. But due to the less transport and communication people meet their requirements by themselves. Muhammad Tughlaq undertook number of humanitarian works as he maintained 40000 poor people and opened Maktabs for the education of orphans and poor people. Teachers were paid from state expenses. Agriculture department was started and advance loans to the cultivators for better produce. Firouz Shah was famous for his public works and start separate departments for the benefits of unemployed, women and students. Similarly the children who lost their parents were recruited as slaves by rulers of south India and maintained them as they have no other way for survival.

Women were educated and number of schools and Madarsas for their education operated in one city of Malabar as well as in Delhi and Daulatabad. Free women as well as slaves know Quran by heart in some cities and even the educational institutions mentioned with counting.

Dancing schools for girls operated in Vijayanagar though they were used mainly for entertaining the rulers and high class people. In the hall various dancing position idols were installed and used by the learner to be expert in the art of dance.

On the roads of importance miles stones were place mentioning the distance for the convenience of travelers. Law and order was maintained excellently almost all
of the rulers in all parts of the country. Large number of foreigners came to India with their families. They were provided with good jobs and highly respected particularly the Arabs shows the hospitality and helpful nature of Indians.

Judicial system operating in different kingdom varies according to the nature of state. The Muslims were influenced by the law of Shariya and Non Muslims with their religion and also with customs and traditions. I could not say that the Muslims regulations were totally matching with Islam because in number of times their activities and actions were totally contrary to it and they were designed for the benefits of powerful. There are examples of Muhammad bin Tughlaq where he accepts the decision of the Qazi which goes against him and he obeyed. But in general the judiciary was favouring the powerful and the common people and the opponents have very little support of it. Justice was definitely influenced by religion, region, castes, and status in many cases. Punishment for crimes differs everywhere and a uniform law was not in vogue.

The architecture of the buildings was discussed in details, the buildings of Delhi Sultanate, Vijayanagar are very important and there architecture required more consideration. The size of the cities is very large as discussed by the travelers and the provisions facilities in the cities arranged by the rulers. The temples of south India and the mosques built by different Muslim rulers wherever they gain supremacy were praiseworthy and wonderful.

Moving to the towns’ cities and buildings of the country were praised by the travelers. The cities of North India which gain much attention were Delhi, Lahore, Agra, Fathepurikri, Kanauj etc. Delhi the capital of the empire was one of the beautiful magnificent and called as second Baghdad in terms of its vastness, grandeur learning etc. and comprised of number of cities. The city was protected by the walls and soldiers were appointed for the protection. The gardens, mosques, palaces of the rulers as well as the nobles were wonderful and huge amount of money was spent on them. Provisions of all the necessities were made available. It was a great centre of learning and number of Madrasas was running maintained by the government and scholarships were provided to the students. These Madarsas teaches the religious sciences and Hanafi School of Islamic jurisprudence as most of the Indian Muslims were Hanafi. Buildings were mostly of two stories and marble was used only by Sultan. A minaret built by the grandson of Balban was marvel things. One important
thing was the presence of more than two thousands hospices of the Sufis which clearly shows that it receives state patronage and support of common masses. Special treatment was given to the foreigner and number of facilities were given to them in the city on state expenses.

Banaras Patna and Bengal were famous cities and produced number of things like cloths which are famous all over India and abroad. People of these cities involved in these handicrafts and earn their livelihood besides agriculture.

Cambay was excellent city and buildings of it including the rich people houses are so well constructed that it seems they are marvels of the worlds and some people called it Cairo of India. Wood was used and it was durable for long time. All this shows that people of this region are rich because they are in trading activities from long time.

Raichur, Bijapur, Beder received much attention of the travelers and the buildings, palaces, gardens, rivers, lakes are praised by them which no doubt true as they were flourishing cities as we found in the contemporary sources.

Vijayanagar was one of the best cities of India and popular in world. Abdur Razzaq and Domingo Paes dedicated pages on the description of the city and goes to the extent in saying that pupil of eye never see such a wonderful city in the world. The remains of Vijayanagar also depict the same picture and support their arguments. It was also compared with Rome in terms of its excellent look and facilities. This was the best city in the world as for as facilities in it was concerned. Houses so white neat and clean that in any country no one betters then them came to sight. Roads and markets crowded by burdened oxen countless in number that it was difficult to pass and person has to wait or choose a different way. This city was a great and among one of the beautiful cities of India. Location was so good that it was surrounded and protected by hills and had gardens, water tanks handsome looking so much so that the foreigner visitor called it second paradise. Not only Vijayanagar but Delhi, Deogir, Bengal, Goa Calicut, Gujarat, Malwa, Agra were highly appreciated and considered as world class cities of that time with all the facilities. Vijayanagar was compared with realms of Venice and Naples and grandeur and wealth of it was beyond mentioning.
Calicut and Goa were two more important and beautiful cities of Malabar Coast which explain the grandeur of India in terms of its buildings, markets and wealth. The rainy season that is monsoon was called by the foreigner’s winter in India.

Concluding to the cities and towns of the country I must say that India is one of the wonder of the world with almost all types of facilities and blessed with all the requirements within the country. The visitors who belong to different region of the world not only visit and stay in India but in other cities and towns of various countries but the attention which India receives no other country got in their writings and wherever they go the goods and people of India found. Artisans of India are excellent which one can guess by viewing the mosques, temples, churches located in different parts of the country. Man sight surprised and he is forced to think about the construction.