

Character list Tughlaq by Girish Karnad

BY
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Muhammad Bin Tughlaq

- Idealistic, Secular Sultan.
- An accomplished scholar
- An expert calligraphist with magical eloquence
- Genuinely interested in mathematics, medicine, science, astronomy and philosophy
- Over ambitious
- Poor plan executer
- Coward ruler
- Short tempered, Stubborn and vindictive
- Had virtues and vices of extreme intensity.

Nazib

- A politician and shrewd contriver
- Converted to islam from hinduism

Ziauddin Barani

- Favourite courtier and companion of Muhammad Bin Tughlaq for seventeen years.
- Muslim political historian of the Delhi Sultanate during Muhammad bin Tughlaq's reign.
- Best known for composing the Tarik-i-Firoz Shahi, a work on medieval India and the finest specimen of Indo-Persian historiography produced during the Sultanate period in India.

Step mother of Sultan

- Only important female character in the play.
- Advises Tughlaq on political matters.
- Requests Barani to promise her not to leave the Sultan.
- Takes care about the health and welfare of Tughlaq
- Tughlaq orders for her to be stoned to death for planning the murder of Najib

Ajiz

- A washerman(dhobi) from shiknar
- Clever, manipulator, imaginative, secretive, money minded,shrewd
- Presents himself in the guise of Vishnu Prasad,a Brahmin,amazingly wins his property case

AZAM

- Friend and partner of Aziz
- Both represent a section of people who are clever enough to identify and misuse the loopholes in every law so that they can profit

SHEIKH IMAM-UD-DIN

- Critic of Sultan
- Bold and Courageous
- Great and Fiery speaker
- Resembles in appearance with Sultan
- Meets his death by being caught in the trap of the Sultan

AN-UL-MULK

- Nawab of Awadh
- Marching towards Delhi with 30000 soldiers
- Learned statesman
- Veteran military general
- Widely travelled well experienced man
- Known for his wise counsel and his ability to tackle complex problems

SHIHAB-UD-DIN

- His speeches are marked with polite words, respectful expressions
- Plans a conspiracy alongwith Ratansingh to kill Sultan