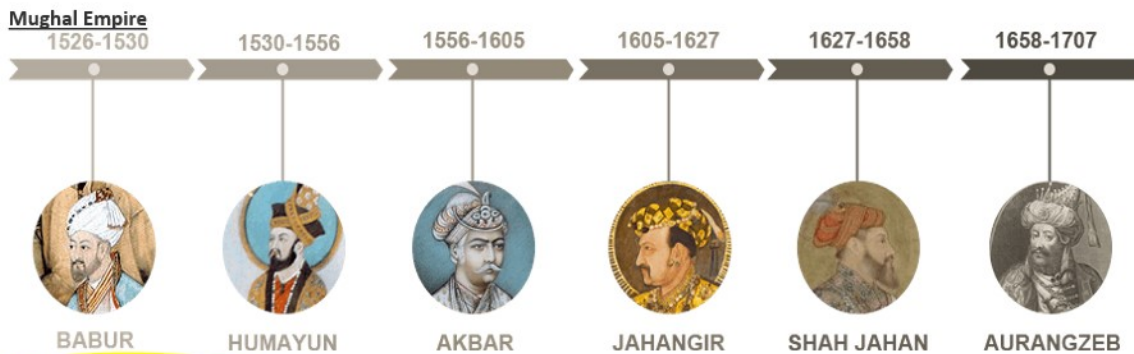


Mughal Empire

Friday, October 12, 2018 10:07 PM



Babur (1526 – 1530)

- Babur name was Zahir al-Din Muhammad, He was a Chagatai Turk.
 - Babur was a fifth-generation descendant of Timur on the side of his father and a 14th-generation descendant of Genghis Khan.
 - He was successful in capturing Bhira (c.1519–1520 CE), Sialkot(c.1520CE), and Lahore (c.1524CE) in Punjab.
 - **Babur established Timurid dynasty and after the victory of battle of panipat established MUGHAL DYANSTY.**
 - Alam Khan, Dault khan lodi an uncle of ibrahim lodi and a pretender to the throne of Delhi and Rana Sanga, king of Mewar invited Babur to invade India.
- **Various Battles Babur fought-**

	Battle	Time	Between Whom	Results
1.	Battle of Panipat	1526	Babur and Ibrahim Lodi	Babur occupied Delhi
2.	Battle of Khanwa	1527	Babur and Rana Sanga (declared jihad)	After Victory assumed title 'GAZNI'.
3.	Battle of Chanderi	1528	Babur and Medini Rai (ruler of Malwa)	
4.	Battle Of Ghaghara	1529	Babur and Afghan ruler Mahmud Lodi(could not win)	

- Babur died in c.1530 CE in Agra, while on his way to Kabul.
- He was buried in Arambagh in Agra, and later his body was taken to Kabul.

Significance of Babur's Advent into India:

- Security from External Invasions from North-West Frontier.
 - Established an all-India Empire by breaking the power of the Rajput Confederacy
 - Introduced new mode of warfare and led to the popularisation of gun powder, cavalry, and artillery in India. Although gunpowder was used earlier too in India, it is Babur who popularised its use.
 - Re-established the authority of the king in Delhi, which had been eroded since the death of Firoz Shah Tughlaq.
 - He was orthodox Sunni, he was neither bigoted and nor led by religious divines.
 - follower of Naqshbandiya Sufi Khwaja Ubaidullah Ahrar.
- HE WROTE-
- a. Autobiography - Tuzuk-i-Babri/Babarnama (translated into Persian by Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khana)
 - b. Masnavi.
- Introduced Char-Baghs and symmetrically laid out gardens with running waters and fountains.
 - Built two mosques, one at Panipat and another at Sambhat in Rohilkhand.

Humayu (1530 – 1540)

Eldest son of Babur; means fortunate but was most unfortunate ruler of Mughal empire

• Main problems faced by Humayun were

- The newly conquered territories and administration was not consolidated and the finances were precarious.
- Humayun did not command the respect and esteem of Mughal nobility.
- He also had to confront the hostility of the Afghans and other prominent provincial rulers.
- As per the Timurid tradition, Humayun had to share power with his brothers which created multiple centres of power.
 - a. Kamran – Kabul, Qandahar and Punjab
 - b. Hindal – Alwar and Mewat
 - c. Mirza Aksari – Sambhal

- **Humayun** → Busy fighting with Afgans (Sher khan / Sher shah) in east, got the news that Bahadur shah of Gujrat was advancing towards Delhi → Hence made treaty with Sher shah.
- Humayu captured Gujrat from Bahadur shah & made Aksari its governor, but soon Bahadur shah recovered it from Aksari who fled from their.

Battle of Chausa (1539)	Humayu & Sher Shah	Between Sher Shah destroyed Mughal army	Humayu fled from there
Battle of Kannauj or Bilgram (1540)	Humayu & Sher Shah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brothers' dint supported Humayu, hence he fought alone. • Humayu was thoroughly defeated by Sher shah 	Humayu became exile for next 15 year

• DURING EXILE -

- Humayun sought shelter at the court of the Iranian king who forced him to convert to Shia faith (Mughals were otherwise Sunni), and recaptured Gandhar and Kabul with his help in c. 1545 CE.
- In c.1555 CE, following the break-up of the Sur empire, Humayun defeated the Afghans and recover the Mughal empire.
- After 6 months only- he died from a fall from the staircase of his library at Sher Mandal at Delhi in c.1556 CE.
- For him, it is said that "he jumbled throughout life and was tumbled out of life".

• Culture contribution made by Humayun Era-

- His half-sister, Gulbadan Begum, wrote Humayun-nama.
- Humayun built a new city at Delhi which he named Dinapanah, and constructed the Jamali mosque and mosque of Isa Khan at Delhi.
- Humayun's tomb is called the prototype of the Taj Mahal, and was built by his widow Haji Begum.
- Humayun invited two Persian painters, Mir Sayyid Ali and Abdus Samad, and made them his court painters.

Sur interregnum (1540 – 1555) - Second Afgan Ruler after Lodhis.

- Founded by Sher Shah, became ruler of Delhi in 1540.
- Sher Shah, even though a pious Muslim, adopted a tolerant attitude towards other religions. He employed Hindus in important offices

• Administration

- Sher Shah empire was divided in 47 Sarkars.
- Each Sarkar was divided into Parganas. Mauza (village) was lowest level of administration. There were also many administrative units called iqtas.
- **Chief Shiqdar to maintain law & order in each sarkar**
- **Chief Munsif as Judge in each Sarkar.**
- Charge of the administration of each pargana was given to -
 - Shiqdars → Military officer
 - Amin → Land revenue officer
 - Fotedar → Treasurer
 - Karkuns → Accountant

• The king was assisted by four important ministers:

- Diwan-i- Wizarat – Also called Wazir, in charge of Revenue and Finance.
- Diwan-i-Ariz – In charge of the Army.
- Diwan-i-Rasalat – Foreign Minister
- Diwan-i-Insha – Minister for Communications

• LAW AND ORDER

- Sher Shah was his re-establishment of law and order across the empire.
- The military administration was also efficiently reorganised and Sher Shah revived Alauddin's Chehra and Dagh system.
- He personally supervised recruitment of soldiers and paid them directly. He divided the army into sawars (serving as linchpin of entire organisation), elephants and frontmen.
- He maintained his personal royal force called Khassa Kail.
- He placed considerable emphasis on justice.
- His son Islam Shah took a big step towards dispensation of justice as he codified the laws.

• LAND REVENUE SYSTEM-

- The land revenue administration was very well organised and revenue officers were called **Amils** while **Qanungo** were the officials in charge of **maintaining revenue records**.
- first time introduced a schedule of crop rates (ray).
- He improved land revenue system by **adopting Zabti-i-har-sal (land assessment every year)** and classified all cultivable lands into three heads (good, middle, bad).
- The state's share was one third of the average produce and it was paid in cash or crop.
- Sher Shah introduced two documents:
 - Patta (amount each peasant had to pay)
 - Qabuliyat (Deed of agreement).

• COINS-

- Copper coins called **Dam**(in circulation till c.1835 CE).
- The first ruler to introduce silver Rupayia (1 Rupayia = 64 dams)
- Gold coin (Ashrafi/Mohur).

• Infrastructure-

ROADS

Laid 4 important highways & constituted rest houses alongside highways viz.

- **Sonargaon to Sind**
- **Agra to Burhampur**
- **Jodhpur to Chittor**
- **Lahore to Multan**

SARAI

- He built sarais (rest houses), These sarais were fortified lodging for safety purpose. Every Sarai had several watchmen under the control of a shahna (custodian).

• Architecture-

- Built a new city on banks of river Yamuna near Delhi.
- He built Purana quila.
- Sher Mandal, an octagonal building inside the Purana Qila complex, which later served as the library of Humayun (from whose staircase he fall and dies)
- Built His own Mausoleum at Sasaram → Considered one of the masterpiece of Indian Architecture.
- He also built the Rohtas Fort (now a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Pakistan).
- He built SherShah Suri Masjid, in Patna.
- He built a new city, Bhera of modern day Pakistan, in c.1545 CE and inside the city built the historical grand Sher Shah Suri Masjid.
- Patronized Malik Muhammad Jayasi who wrote famous Hindi work Padmavat during his reign.
- Famous historian, Abbas Khan Sarwani, wrote the Tarikh-i- Shershahi during his reign.

Akbar (1556 – 1605)

- Son of Humayun and Hamida Banu Begam.
- Bairam Khan represented Akbar in the Second battle of Panipat (c.1556 CE) with Hemu Vikramaditya (Wazir of Mohd. Shah Adil of Bengal).

- **Between Akbar & Hemu (Commander of Afgans)**
- **Akbar emerged victorious with the help of Bairam Khan**

- Akbar married Rajput princess Jodha, daughter of Raja Bhairomal of Amber
- This marriage became a turning point in the history of Mughals, as Rajputs supported them now
- Many Rajputs like Raja Man singh & Raja Bhagwan Das were given senior position in Akbar's court
- **Battle of Haldighati, 1576 -**
 - Between Akbar and Maharana Pratap of Mewar
 - Mughals under the leadership of Raja Man singh defeated Rana Pratap of Mewar

- Akbar was very tolerant towards religious policies → abolished pilgrim tax & later Jiziya
- He formed a strong alliance b/w Mughals & Rajputs which ensured peace in Rajasthan & Northern India



Akbars' Religious Touch

- Early contact with Sufi saints

- Teachings from his teacher Abdul Latif
- His marriage with Rajput princess
- His association with intellectual giant like Shaikh Mubarak & his 2 sons – Abul Faizi & Abul Fazal
- After marrying Jodha Bai, he abolished pilgrimage tax & Jiziga
- Allowed his Hindu wife to worship her own God
- He was a pious Muslim in his early life but later became a skeptic one
- Constructed Ibadat khana (house of worship where scholars from all religion meet to discuss religious policies) at his new capital Fatehpur sikri
- Invited learned scholars from all religions to discuss religious policies
- Disliked the interference of Muslim Ulemas in political matters
- In 1579, He issued infallibility decree & asserted his religious powers
- In 1582, he promulgated a new religion “Din – i – Ilahi” or divine faith in one god
- Din – i – Ilahi contained good points of all the religions & uphold no dogma
- Din – i – Ilahi mainly aimed to bridge gap b/w all religions (Only 15 followers joined including Birbal)

Akbars’ Land Revenue system

- Land revenue system of Akbar was known as Zabti / Bandobast system
- Further modified by Raja Todarmal, now known as Dahsala system which included-
 - **Measurement of land**
 - **Revenue fixed on average yield of last 10 years**
 - **Land divided into four categories viz.**

Polaj	Cultivated every year
Parauti	Cultivated every 2 years
Chachar	Cultivated every 3 – 4 years
Banjar	Cultivated every 5 years

Mansabdari system of Akbar

- Under this system, every officer was assigned a Rank (Mansab)
- Lowest officer got 10 coins & highest officers (Nobles) got 5000 coins for their services
- Includes all public services except Judiciary
- Ranks were divided into 2 categories, namely
 - **Zat** → **Described the personal status of a person**
 - **Sawar** → **Number of cavalry man a person is required to maintain**

Jahangir (1605 – 1627)

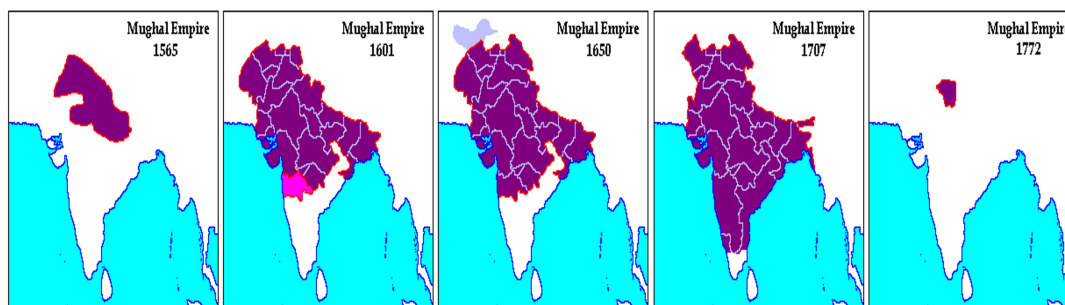
- Prince Salim succeeded the throne with the title Jahangir (Conqueror of the world)
- Witness rebellions from his son Khusaro, but was defeated & imprisoned
- Beheaded 5th Sikh Guru Arjun dev
- In 1611, Married Mehrunnisa (Nurjaha → Light of the world)
- Wrote his Autobiography → Tuzuk – i – Jahagiri

Shahjaha (1627 – 1658)

- Married Mumtaj (Banu Begum)
- Conquered Deccan (Bijapur & Golkunda and put it under the leadership of his son Aurangzeb)
- Later, Aurangzeb killed his 3 brothers & confined Shahjaha to female apartments in Agra fort
- Though Aurangzeb never ill-treated Shahjaha

Aurangzeb (1658 – 1707)

- Assumed the title Alamgir (or World Conqueror)
- To contain Marathas (Shivaji), he attacked Golkunda & Bijapur (Deccan Shias)
- Though Aurangzeb defeated them but it removed the only boundary b/w Marathas & Mughals
- According to JN Sarkar, Deccan ulcer ruined Aurangzeb



Religious Policies of Aurangzeb

- Very orthodox & staunch Muslim; tried to change India into an Islamic state
- Created separate departments to enforce moral codes called ‘Muhtasib’
- **Prohibited drinking, cultivation & use of Bhang & drugs**
- **Forbid music in Mughal court, Dismissed royal astrologers & astronomers**
- **Discontinued practice of Jharoka darshan**
- **Discontinued celebration of Dussehra**

- Destroyed Hindu temples & banned construction of them
- Reimposed Jiziya & pilgrimage tax (in 1679)
- Stopped celebration of Muharram (Not tolerant towards other Muslim sects)
- Was against Sikhs & executed 9th Sikh Guru Teg Bahadur, which resulted transformation of Sikhs into warring community

His religious policies turned Rajputs, Sikhs, Marathas, Jats & Satnamis against him & hence became the sole reason for decline of Mughal Empire

Personality & Character of Aurangzeb

- Very simple in dressing & food; Very disciplined & industrious
- Earned money for personal expenses by copying Quran & selling those copies
- Did not consume wine, learned & proficient in Arabic & Persian language
- Lover of books, strict follower of Islam
- Daily Namaz for 5 times & strictly observed Ramzan
- Overall an orthodox Muslim intolerant to other religions

“After Aurangzeb’s death Nadir shah looted Delhi & imprisoned new Mughal emperor in 1739”

Architecture under Mughals

Emperor	Monument	Place
Akbar	Agra fort using Red Stone	Agra
	Panch Mahal – build on the pattern of a Buddhist Vihara	Fatehpur Sikri
	Jama masjid with gateway Buland Darwaza – On Gujrat’s victory	Fatehpur Sikri
	Humayu Tomb – Precursor of Tajmahal	Delhi
Jahangir	Shalimar Bagh	Srinagar
	Akbar’s Tomb	Sikandara near Agra
	Itimaddaulah Tomb (Pietra dura style by Nurjaha)	Agra
Shahjaha	Red Fort	Delhi
	Jama Masjid using Red stone	Delhi
	Moti Masjid	Agra
	Diwan – i – am	Under Red Fort (Delhi)
	Diwan – i – Khas	Under Red Fort (Delhi)
	Nishat Bagh (By Asif khan, Brother of Nurjaha)	Srinagar
Aurangzeb	Pinjore Garden	Lahore
	Moti Masjid with white marble	Delhi

Painting & Music

- Akbarnama was the main theme of Mughal paintings
- Hamznama was the most important work of Mughals time consisting 1200 paintings
- Tansen (From Gwalior) was a great musician in Akbar’s court

Literature

- Abul Fazal → Ain – i – Akbari, Akbarnama (Persian Language)
- Abul Faizi → Converted Mahabharata into Persian language (Leading poet of Akbar’s Court)
- Abdul Hamid Lahori → Padshah Nama (Shahjaha’s Court)
- Inayat Khan → Shahjaha Naha (Shahjaha’s Court)
- Dara Shikoh (Eldest son of Shahjaha) → Converted Bhagvat Gita & Upanishads into Persian

Trivia

- During 17th century, two new crops “Tobacco & Maize” were added
- Potato & Chili came later in 18th century
- Ghee & oils were cheaper; Salts & sugar were more expensive