Mughal Empire- Akbar, Jahangir, Shahjahan, Aurangzeb
Mughal Empire- Akbar, Jahangir, Shahjahan, Aurangzeb and Latter Mughals

Mughal Dynasty (Akbar Onwards)

Administration

Akbar (1556-1605)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Significance</th>
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<tr>
<td>1556</td>
<td>Akbar ascended the throne when he was 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>1556</td>
<td>2nd Battle of Panipat between Hemu and Bairam Khan(khan-i-khannan). Hemu gets defeated in the battle</td>
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<tr>
<td>1560</td>
<td>Akbar becomes independent at the age of 18 and dismisses Bairam Khan</td>
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<td>1564</td>
<td>Abolition of Jizyah tax</td>
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<td>1571</td>
<td>Foundation of Fatehpur Sikri, near Agra was laid</td>
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<td>1574</td>
<td>Mansabdari system introduced</td>
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<td>1575</td>
<td>Ibadatkhana was built</td>
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<td>1576</td>
<td>Battle of Haldihatti fought between Rana Pratap and the Mughal army led by Raja Man Singh</td>
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<tr>
<td>1580</td>
<td>Dahsala Bandobast system introduced</td>
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<tr>
<td>1582</td>
<td>Din-i-illahi – a new religion was propounded by Akbar which was a synthesis of values taken from several religions like Hinduism, Islam, Jainism etc. It was a move against religious orthodoxy and bigotry. He followed the policy of Sulh-kul or peace to all.</td>
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• Akbar was at Kalanaur in Punjab at the death of Humayun’s death and therefore his coronation took place in Kalanaur itself in 1556.
• Humayun’s favourite and confidant Bairam Khan, who served as the regent and tutor of the Mughal emperor from 1556 to 1560. He became the wakil of the kingdom with the title of Khan-i-Khanan.
• One of the major achievements of Bairam Khan’s regency period was the defeat of Hemu and the Afghan forces who were posing a serious threat to the Mughal Empire. In the second Battle of Panipat in 1556, Hemu was almost on the point of victory. But an arrow pierced his eye and he became unconscious. The Mughal victory was decisive.
• Bairam Khan consolidated the Mughal empire. After five years he was removed by Akbar due to court intrigues and sent to Mecca. But on his way Bairam was killed by an Afghan.
• Akbar started a policy of expansion after overcoming initial problems and consolidating his hold on the throne. The major political powers spread in different parts of the country were:
i) The Rajputs who were spread throughout the country as independent chiefs and kings, and were concentrated mainly in Rajasthan.  

ii) The Afghans held political control mainly in Gujarat, Bihar and Bengal.  

iii) Khandesh, Ahmednagar, Bijapur, Golkonda and few other kingdoms in South India and Deccan were quite powerful.  

iv) Kabul and Qandhar, though ruled by Mughal Akbar Military policy factions, were hostile towards Akbar.

- Akbar’s conquered northern India from Agra to Gujarat and then from Agra to Bengal.  
- He strengthened the northwest frontier and later on he went to the Deccan.  
- Akbar through a systematic policy started the task of expanding his Empire.  
- The first step that Akbar took after the dismissal of Bairam Khan was to put an end to the conflict within the nobility. He demonstrated great diplomatic skills and organizational capabilities in handling it.  
- Akbar started his policy of expansion with central India. In 1559–60 the first expedition was sent to capture Gwalior before moving towards Malwa. Akbar deputed Adham Khan to lead the expedition against Malwa in central India which was ruled by Baz Bahadur. Baz Bahadur was defeated and fled towards Burhanpur.  
- Gondwana, an independent state in Central India ruled by Rani Durgawati, widow of Dalpat Shah, was also conquered and annexed to the Mughal empire in 1564.

![Map of Mughal Empire](image)

**Rajasthan**

- The Rajput policy of Akbar was notable. Akbar was fully aware of the importance of Rajput kingdoms and wanted them as allies in his ambition of establishing a large empire.  
- He tried to win over the Rajputs wherever possible and inducted them into Mughal service.  
- He also entered into matrimonal alliances with the Rajput rulers. He married the Rajput princess, the daughter of Raja Bharamal.  
- Rajputs served the Mughals for four generations and many of them rose to the positions of military generals.
• Raja Bhagawan Das and Raja Man Singh were given senior positions in the administration by Akbar.
• The Rajput kingdoms like Merta and Jodhpur were also occupied without much resistance.
• However, Maharana Pratap, the ruler of Mewar posed most serious challenge to the Mughal emperor and did not submit before Akbar.
• After a prolonged struggle and siege of the fort of Chittor, Akbar succeeded in defeating the Mewar forces. However, it could not be fully subdued and some resistance from Mewar side continued for a long time.
• After the fall of Chittor Ranthambhor and Kalinjar were captured. Marwar, Bikaner and Jaisalmer also submitted to Akbar.
• By 1570 Akbar had captured almost the whole of Rajasthan.
• The most important achievement of Akbar was that in spite of the subjugation of the whole of Rajasthan there was no hostility between the Rajputs and the Mughals.

Afghans (Gujarat, Bihar and Bengal)

• Akbar’s campaign against Afghans started with Gujarat in 1572.
• One of the princes, Itimad Khan, invited Akbar to come and conquer it.
• Akbar himself marched to Ahmedabad. In a short time most of the principalities of Gujarat were brought under his control.
• Akbar organized Gujarat into a province and placed it under Mirza Aziz Koka and returned to capital.
• Within six months various rebellious groups came together and revolted against the Mughal rule and the Mughal governor had to cede a number of territories.
• The leaders of rebellion were Ikhtiyar ul Mulk and Mohammad Hussain Mirza. From Agra, Akbar marched at a rapid pace and managed to reach Ahmedabad in ten days and quickly suppressed the rebellion.
• Bengal and Bihar which were under the control of the Afghans, were paid attention after the Gujarat expedition. In 1574, Akbar along with Munim Khan Khan-i-Khanan marched towards Bihar. In a short time, Hajipur and Patna were captured and Gaur (Bengal) was also taken away. With this the independent rule of Bengal was ended in 1576.
• By 1592, the Mughal mansabdar Raja Man Singh also brought the whole of Orissa under the Mughal rule.
• A series of conflicts arose in some regions of the Mughal empire in 1581. Bengal, Bihar, Gujarat and the north-west were main centres of unrest.
• The Afghans were at the root of these problems since they were overthrown everywhere by the Mughals.
• Apart from this, Akbar’s policy of strict administration of jagirs was also responsible for this.
• A new policy was adopted, according to which the jagirdars were asked to submit the accounts of the jagirs. This created dissatisfaction and jagirdars rose in revolt.
• Akbar immediately sent a large force under Raja Todar Mal and Shaikh Farid Bakshi and a little later, Aziz Koka and Shahbaz Khan to help Todar Mal.
• The rebels declared Akbar’s brother Hakim Mirza, who was in Kabul, as their king.
• But soon the Mughal forces were able to successfully crush the rebellion in Bihar, Bengal and adjoining regions.

Punjab and North West
• In the Punjab, Mirza Hakim attacked Lahore. Akbar decided to march towards Lahore himself. Hakim Mirza immediately retreated and Akbar controlled the whole region. He gave first priority to organize the protection of North-West frontiers. After this he marched towards Kabul and conquered the territory. Akbar gave the charge of Kabul to his sister Bakhtunnisa Begum. Later on Raja Man Singh was appointed governor of Kabul and it was given to him in jagir.

• Another important development in the North-West region was the rebellion of Roshanai who captured the road between Kabul and Hindustan. Roshanai was a sect established by a soldier who was called Pir Roshanai in the region. His son Jalala was heading the sect who had large following. Akbar appointed Zain Khan as commander of a strong force to suppress the Roshanais and establish Mughal control in the region. Sayid Khan Gakhar and Raja Birbal were also sent with separate forces to help Zain Khan. In one of the operations Birbal was killed with most of his forces.
• He deputed Raja Todar Mal and Raja Man Singh to suppress the rebellion and they were successful in defeating the Roshanais. Akbar annexed Kashmir to the Mughal Empire in 1586.

• Finally, by the year 1595, the complete supremacy of Mughals over North-West region was established.

Deccan

• After 1590, Akbar gave shape to a Deccan policy to bring these states under Mughal control.
• During this period the Deccan states were facing internal tensions and regular conflicts.
• In 1591, Akbar sent offers to the Deccan states asking them to accept Mughal sovereignty, but there was not much success.
• In 1595, the Mughal forces invaded Ahmednagar. Its ruler Chand Bibi decided to face the Mughals. She approached Ibrahim Adil Shah of Bijapur and Qutub Shah of Golkonda for help but with no success. After heavy losses on both sides, a treaty was worked out and Chand Bibi ceded Berar to Mughals.
• Ater some time Chand Bibi attacked Berar to take it back. At this point Nizamshahi, Qutabshahi and Adilshahi troops decided to present a joint front. The Mughals suffered heavy losses but could retain their position. Meanwhile, Adil Shah of Bijapur also expressed allegiance and offered his daughter in marriage to Prince Daniyal and Chand Bibi also died. Now Mughal territories in Deccan included Asirgarh, Burhanpur, Ahmednagar and Berar.
• Along with the expansion of territory Akbar initiated the policy of absorbing the chieftains into Mughal nobility which paid rich dividends to the empire. The Mughal emperor succeeded in getting the support of chieftains and their armies for new conquests.
• The chieftains also benefited from this policy and they could retain their territories and administer them as they wished. In addition, they received jagir and mansab. Often they got territories in jagir bigger than their kingdoms. It also provided them security from enemies and rebellions.
• Many Rajput mansabdars were assigned their own territories as Watan Jagir, which was hereditary and non-transferable. The territorial expansion under Akbar gave a definite shape to the Mughal Empire.
• In terms of territorial expansion very little was added to the empire after Akbar. Some territories were added during the regions of Shahjahan and Aurangzeb in the Deccan and North East of India.
Akbar’s last days were rendered unhappy. His beloved friend and poet Faizi passed away in A.D. 1595.

Two of his sons, Murad and Danyal, died of over drinking.

In an eagerness to seize the throne Salim set himself up as an independent king at Allahabad.

In A.D. 1602, he further wounded his father’s feelings by causing Abul Fazl to be put to death.

A reconciliation was brought out between the father and the son. Soon after, Akbar fell ill and died on October 1605 A.D.

Akbar patronized men of letters. Todarmal, Abul Fazl, Faizi, Birbal, Tansen, Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khanan, Man Singh etc. were gems of his court.

**Religious Policy**

Various factors were responsible for the religious policy of Akbar.

The most important among them were his early contacts with the sufi saints, the teachings of his tutor Abdul Latif, his marriage with Rajput women, his association with intellectual giants like Shaikh Mubarak and his two illustrious sons – Abul Faizi and Abul Fazl – and his ambition to establish an empire in Hindustan.

In the beginning of his life, Akbar was a pious Muslim.

He abolished the pilgrim tax and in 1562, he abolished jiziya.

He allowed his Hindu wives to worship their own gods.

Later, he became a skeptical Muslim.

In 1575, he ordered for the construction of Ibadat Khana (House of worship) at his new capital Fatepur Sikri.

Akbar invited learned scholars from all religions like Hinduism, Jainism, Christianity and Zoroastrianism.

He disliked the interference of the Muslim Ulemas in political matters.

In 1579, he issued the “Infallibility Decree” by which he asserted his religious powers.

In 1582, he promulgated a new religion called Din Ilahi or Divine Faith. It believes in one God. It contained good points of all religions. Its basis was rational. It upholds no dogma. It was aimed at bridging the gulf that separated different religions.

However, his new faith proved to be a failure. It fizzled out after his death. Even during his life time, it had only fifteen followers including Birbal. Akbar did not compel anyone to his new faith.

**Land Revenue Administration**

Akbar made some experiments in the land revenue administration with the help of Raja Todar Mal.

The land revenue system of Akbar was called Zabti or Bandobast system.

It was further improved by Raja Todar Mal. It was known as Dahsala System which was completed in 1580.

By this system, Todar Mal introduced a uniform system of land measurement.

The revenue was fixed on the average yield of land assessed on the basis of past ten years.

**Mughal Administration: Key Features & Structure**
The mughal empire was divided into Subas which were further subdivided into Sarkar, Pargana, and Gram. There were 15 Subas (provinces) during Akbar's reigns, which later increased to 20 under the Auranzeb's reign.

The mughal empire was divided into "Subas" which were further subdivided into "Sarkar","Pargana", and "Gram". There were 15 Subas (provinces) during Akba's reigns, which later increased to 20 under the rule of aurangzeb. The Akbar introduced the Mansabdari system. The term "Mansab" indicates the rank of the holder. Mansabdari was both civil and military. During Mughal administration there were 3 methods of revenue collection i.e. Kankut, Rai And Zabti.

Establishing a firm rule in Indian Subcontinent for nearly 200 years, the Mughals built an Empire with not only great political might but also a firm administrative setup that provided strength for a smooth functioning. From the centralization of power to creating conducive conditions for economic and cultural growth, the Mughals looked at administrative matters with great seriousness and precision.

Central Administration

Enjoying the absolute power, the Emperor of the Mughal Empire was always the central administrative authority. A number of officers in the different governmental departments were appointed for the smooth functioning of transactions involving various affairs.

- The state had four main departments and the four main officers of the central government were diwan; Mir bakhshi; Mir saman; and sadr.
- The diwan (also called the Wazir or chief minister), held the primary position among them and looked after revenue and finance, but kept an overview of all matters of expenditure and related departments recording all imperial orders and assigning duties and expense to district faujdars.
- Mir Bakshi handled the military pay and accounts and related duties. He not only was the Paymaster for all officers but also played role in recruitment of soldiers, listing of mansabdars and important officials.
- The imperial household was held by Khan-i-Saman. He dealt with matters relating to maintaining record and requirement of the state karkhanas, stores, order, interactions and internal relations.
- The Sadr was the head of religious donations and contributions. He also looked after education and imperial alms. Sadr acted as the Chief Qazi before Shah Jahan, Aurangzeb divided these two offices and allotted two separate persons for these posts.
- Occasionally a dignitary superior to the wazir and other ministers was also appointed called the vakil. He acted as the deputy of the sultanate (naib).

Provincial Administration

Akbar set the firm base for the provincial administration by fixing the territories of the provincial units and establishing a uniform administrative model subjected to minor amendment to suit local circumstances. Each province had a set of officials representing the branches of state activity, which made control over provinces more effective.
The provincial administrative structure was the replica of that of the central government.

*Sipah Salaror Nazim* (the governor) well known by the name subahdar was appointed directly by the Emperor and was the main officer looking after civil and administrative responsibility of each Suba.

*The Bakshi* or the paymaster was the next provincial authority having duties of military establishment, salaries of Mansabdars and occasional duties like news writing for provinces.

In every *Suba* (province) was established the *Dag Choki* that conducted the intelligence and postal service. The *Waqai Navis* and *Waqai Nigars* supplied direct reports to the King and *Sawanih Nigars* were the confidential report providers.

Provincial Sadr, Qazi etc performed the same duties within provinces as the central administration officials.

The faujdars (administrative head of district) and the kotwal (performing executive and ministerial duties)

**Local Administration**

At the village level, the subas were divided into Sarkars which were further subdivided into Parganas.

- Faujdar (chief executive head of a Sarkar) was responsible for maintaining law and order in his jurisdiction and the executed the royal decrees and regulations. He also kept the powerful Zamindars under check.
- Amalguzar or the revenue collector was the next important officer. Shiqdar maintained the general administration and law and order of Pargana assisted by Amil (revenue collector), Amin (assessor of revenue), Patadar (treasurer), Qanungo (keeper of land record) and Bitikchis (clerks).
- Village head or the Muqaddam (sarpanch) dealt with functions locally. The Patwari assisted him by taking care of village revenue records.

**Revenue Administration**

Land revenue was the major source of the income.

- Akbar had instituted a system of Dahsala/Bandobast Arazi/the Zabti system. Under which, the average produce of different crops and the average prices from the last ten years were calculated. One-third of the average was the share of the state that was mentioned in cash.
- Land revenue was fixed considering both, continuity and productivity of cultivation, divided into four categories Polaj (land continually cultivated), parauti (fallow lands for an year) paid full prices when under cultivation. Chachar (once in three or four years) and Banjar (once in five or more years).
- After assessing land revenue in kind, value was converted into cash using price list or dastur-ul-amal, prepared at regional level for various food crops.
- The empire was divided into numerous regions-dastur, at pargana level, that had similar productivity. The government provided the dastur-ul-amal at tehsil level and it explained the style of land revenue payment.
- Each cultivator got a title for land holding or patta and qubuliyat (deed of agreement by which he pays state revenue).
- Various other assessment system were followed under Akbar’s reign
- The most common was called batai or ghallabakshi (crop-sharing) subdivided into three parts (i) bhaoli -reaped and stacked crops divided in the presence of the parties. (ii) khet batai –dividing fields after sowing.(iii)lang batai- division of grain heaps.
- Kankut—in Kankut –measuring the land by Jrib or through pacing and estimating standing crops by inspection.
- Nasaq—a rough calculation of payable amount by the peasant, keeping in minds his past experience.

**Military Administration**

- Soldiers, horsemen, horses and elephants has to be supplied and maintained by the mansabdars. The number that a mansabdar was expected to provide was specific in his warrant of selection or were indicated by the rank he held.
- The classes of troops under the Mansabdars were: dakhili (services of which were paid by the state), ahadis (the "gentlemen troopers," who drew higher pay than ordinary servicemen). The chiefs were also permitted to hold a degree of autonomy while providing deputation under their own command.
- The army had the following five units:
  1. Cavalry having two types of horsemen: (i) ‘Bargir’, soldiers receiving horses, arms, dress etc. from the state and (ii) Siledar’, soldiers who brought their own horses and arms.  
  2. Infantry: Infantry was structured in two units (i) Bandukchi’ (Riflemen) and ‘Samshirbaz’ (Swordsmen).  
  3. War elephants: The elephants were used for fighting as well as for carrying load.  
  4. Artillery: The artillery reached its highest proficiency in Akbar’s time.  
  5. Navy: the Mughals had a weak naval base compared to the Europeans.

- The artillery for the army was paid wholly out of the imperial treasury.
- The organization of the army was loose and the scantiness of officers reduced the efficiency of the army. The discipline was poor, particularly in lower ranks.
- The Mughals took along a great number of camp followers, which occasionally included the families of the soldiers and the imperial harem; this made the army a very burdensome, sluggish group.

**Mansabdari System**

- The Mughal nobility or mansabdars looked after the administration of the state the central authority of which lay with the Emperor, like the power of conferring, increasing, decreasing the mansab. Frequent transfers of jagirs were made to maintain insecurities among the Mansabdars.
- Mansab was the grant to enjoy a jagir given to every official. Jagir was the revenue assignment as a substitute of a cash salary (not land) for services delivered.
- The mansabdar could collect revenue from his jagir through the Zamindars collecting dues from cultivators.
- No hereditary claim could be made and on the death of a Mansab his personal property taken by the State, of which the balance owed to state was deducted and balance was returned to his heirs.
- Mansabs could be called to give duties in both military and civil spheres in any part of the empire. They played a considerable role in the economic, social and cultural life around them.
- The system promoted exploitation of people in the lower stature and created selfishness, corruption.

**Jagirdari System**
Under the reign of Akbar land was divided into two categories - Khalisa and Jagir. Land revenue of Khalisa was directly for the royal treasury and Jagirs were allocated to the Jagirdars according to their rank. Mansabdars receiving cash payment were known as Naqdi.

The jagirs were the assignment of revenue given to the Mansabdars and the assignees were Jagirdars. This was similar to the Iqtas and the Iqtadars under Delhi Sultans.

There were four types of Jagirs – Jagir Tankha (given in lieu of pay), Mashrut Jagirs (given on certain conditions), Inam Jagir (independent of any obligation) and Watan Jagir (assigned in the homelands).

The Revenue Department maintained a record Jama-Dami that indicated the assessed income (jama) of various areas, indicated in dams, calculated as 40 dams to a rupee.

The Jagirs were transferable and no Jagirdar was given a same Jagir for a long time. This system was to check the ability of Jagirdars to maintain a area and control the exploitation or tyranny of Jagirdars.

Jahangir (1605 - 1627)

- Jahangir came to the throne in 1605. He issued 12 ordinances. He established Zanjir-il-Adal – Chain of Justice in Agra Fort and was known for his strict administration of Justice.
- He entered into a marriage with Mehrunnisa, an Afghan widow, in 1611. Later, he awarded her with titles- Noor Mahal (light of the palace), Noor Jahan (light of the world) and Padshah Begum.
- In 1606, Jahangir killed 5th Guru of Sikh, Guru Arjun Dev. He was charged of helping Jahangir’s son Prince Khusru to rebel against his father.
- In 1609, Jahangir granted trade concession to William Hawkins. He was an envoy of King James I of England.
- Then in 1615, Sir Thomas Roe reached the court of Jahangir. He was the first ambassador of James I of England in the court of Jahangir. He was successful in getting permission to establish first English factory at Surat.
- Jahangir’s reign is considered as the Golden Age of Mughal Painting. Jahangir himself was a painter. Ustad Mansur and Abul Hassan and Bishan das were famous painters in the court of Jahangir.
- Anarkali was Jahangir’s lover. Mughal-i-Azam directed by K. Asif is a famous film that tells the love story of Jahangir and Anarkali.
- Jahangir wrote his autobiography Tuzukh-i-Jahangiri, in Persian.
- Jahangir breathed his last in 1627 and was cremated at Shahdara in Lahore.

Shah Jahan (1628 - 1658)

- He was born on 5th January 1592 at Lahore. His childhood name was Khurram. He ascended the throne in 1628.
He married to his maternal cousin, Arjumand Banu Begum. She was the daughter of Asaf Khan, Noor Jahan’s brother. She is famously known as Mumtaz Mahal which means beloved of the Palace.

Shahjahan destroyed the Portuguese settlements at Hooghly in 1631-32.

Lahore Gate is the Gateway of Red Fort and it is here that the Prime Minister of India hoists the National Flag and addresses the nation on the Independence Day.

In 1656 Shah Jahan constructed the Jama Masjid in Delhi. It is the biggest masjid in India.

Malik Ibn Dinar, in 644 AD constructed first masjid in India at Kodungallur, Kerala (Cheraman Palli).

Shah Jahan’s period is renowned as Golden Age of Mughal Empire.

European painting was introduced by Portuguese in India during his reign.

Aurangzeb imprisoned his father Shah Jahan at Agra fort. He remained in prison from 1658 to 1666 and died eventually.

Shah Jahan’s son Dara Shikoh was a renowned scholar. He is credited for the translation of many Hindu religious texts like Bhagavat Gita and Sixty Upanishads into Persian. “Majma-ul-Bahrain” (Mingling of the Oceans) was written by him. He also translated Atharva Veda into Persian.

Shah Jahan was a famous lyricist who wrote in Hindi. He built the Peacock Throne. It was abducted from here by Nadir Shah in 1739 during his Indian invasion. Presently, it is kept at the London Tower Museum, Britain.

French travellers Bernier and Tavernier, Italian travelers Niccolao Manucci, Peter Mundy visited India during Shah Jahan’s period.

Architecture

His reign is considered as the Golden Age of Mughal Architecture and Shah Jahan is known as the Prince of Builders.

In 1631, he commenced the construction of Taj Mahal in memory of his beloved wife. It was completed in 1653. Ustad Isa was its architect who was a Persian. British administrator Ferguson called it ‘a love in marble’.

In 1638, he shifted his capital to newly built city Shahjahanabad in Delhi. He also built Takht-i-Taus or Peacock throne.

In 1639, he started the construction of Red Fort in Delhi on the model of Agra fort built by Akbar. The Diwan-i- Aam, Diwan-i-Khas and the Moti Masjid are situated inside the Red Fort. The Moti Masjid in Agra was constructed by Shah Jahan.

Aurangzeb (1658 - 1707)

Aurangzeb is infamous of imprisoning his father, Shah Jahan and usurped the royal throne in 1658. Though actual coronation was conducted in 1659. He defeated Dara and crowned himself under the title “Alamgir”. He was the last great Mughal Emperor after which the disintegration had started.

Aurangzeb is known as ‘Zinda Pir’ or living saint because of his simple life.

He was a staunch and orthodox Muslim who banned singing and dancing in the Royal court. He reintroduced Jizyah and Pilgrimage tax.
In 1675, he executed 9th Sikh Guru, Guru Teg Bahadur because of his reluctance to accept Islam. Guru Gobind Singh, the last Sikh Guru, organized his followers under Khalsa to fight the tyranny of Aurangzeb. He was assassinated in 1708.

Aurangzeb’s son-built Bibi ka Maqbara in 1679 AD in memory of his mother Rabia-Durrani.

The only building by Aurangzeb in Red Fort is Moti Masjid. He also built the Badshahi Masjid in Lahore.

Shivaji and Mughals: Aurangzeb made several bids to crush the Marathas when they rose under Shivaji. In 1665 Aurangzeb conspired with Jai Singh of Amber to eliminate Shivaji when he visited Aurangzeb’s court. Shivaji escaped and proclaimed himself as an independent ruler but he died in 1680. Aurangzeb executed Shivaji’s son Sambhaji in 1689. Shivaji’s guerilla warfare tactics made it difficult for Aurangzeb to bring Deccan under his control.

After Shivaji’s death, Aurangzeb spent 25 years (1682 – 1707) in a desperate bid to crush Marathas.

During Aurangzeb’s reign, Mughals expanded widely and became Pan-India Empire. He annexed Bijapur and Golconda in 1686 and 1687, respectively.

Aurangzeb died in 1707 at Ahmednagar. His tomb is situated at Daulatabad in Maharashtra where he was buried near to Sheikh Janulabidin.

Latter Mughals

Bahadur Shah I (1707-12)
- Original name was Muazzam
- Title, Shah-e-Bekhabar.
- Promoted friendly relationship with Marathas and Rajputs.

Jahandar Shah (1712-13)
- Title - Foolish Badshah
- Zulfikar Khan (Wazir) helped him in ascending the throne.
- He abolished Jizyah which was a tax implied upon non-Muslim residents by Muslim rulers for their protection.
- He gave power to Ramsubhag.

Farrukhshiyar (1713-19)
- Title – coward Badshah
- He was an incompetent ruler and lacked ability to rule on his own.
- His reign saw the rise of the Sayyid Brothers (known as king makers), Abdulla Khan-Wazir and Hussain Ali-Senapati.
- He issued Golden Farman to east India company for free trade in 1717.
- Farrukhshiyar executed Banda Bahadur (A Sikh leader also known as Banda Bairagi).

Muhammad Shah (1719-48)
- Original name – Roshan Akhtar
• Title - Rangeela
• Ascended throne because of Sayyid Brothers, thus was merely a puppet ruler.
• Nadir Shah invaded India defeated Mughal army in battle of Karnal and took away Peacock throne and Kohinoor diamond.
• This period saw the emergence of many independent states.

Ahmed Shah (1748-54)
• Ahmed Shah Abdali (General of Nadir Shah) marched towards Delhi and the Mughals ceded Punjab and Multan.
• He worked under the guidance of Rajmata “Udam Bai”.

Alamgir (1754-59)
• Ahmed Shah occupied Delhi later, Delhi was plundered by Marathas.

Shah Alam II (1759-1806)
• Original Name: Ali Gohar
• Third Battle of Panipat: (1761)
• Battle of Buxar (1764)
• Treaty of Allahabad (1765)
• Could not enter Delhi for 12 years.
• 1788: Gulam Kadir make him blind

Akbar II (1806-37)
• Pensioner of East India Company.
• Gave the title “Raja” to Ram Mohan Roy.

Bahadur Shah II (1837-57)
• Last Mughal emperor pen name- Zafar
• Emperor who was made premier during the 1857 Revolt.
• 1862-death in Rangoon (Myanmar).

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