Emperor Akbar

On October 14, 1542, in Sindh, Pakistan, the second Mughal Emperor Humayun and his bride Hamida Banu Begam gave birth to Akbar. Despite having forefathers such as Genghis Khan and Timur, his family had been in flight relinquishing Babur's freshly founded realm.

- Young Akbar was nurtured by an uncle in Afghanistan, while his parents were in exile in Persia.
- He honed important talents such as hunting, but he never learned how to read. Nonetheless, Akbar had worked numerous segments of history, philosophy, science and religion, as well as other disciplines, read to him throughout his life, and he could repeat entire passages from memory.
- Humayan died in 1555, only a few months after taking back Delhi. At the age of 13, Akbar assumed the Mughal throne and then became Shahanshah (King of Kings). Bayram Khan, his boyhood protector and a great warrior/statesman served as his regent.

Expansion of Empire By Emperor Akbar

For geostrategic considerations and to keep bothersome warriors away from the capital, the new emperor embarked on an aggressive military expansion campaign. The Mughal army would go on to capture much of north India, encompassing what is now Pakistan, and Afghanistan in the years to come.

- After numerous fights and rebellions, Akbar acquired the territories of Gwalior, Gondwana, and Malwa.
- Akbar is also attributed to have conquered and led a series of battles in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Bihar and Bengal.
- The prime reason for rebellion in Bengal was due to the implementation of the dagh system.
- Akbar captured major parts of Rajasthan, but he also established Rajput policy, The jizya policy expressing the dominance of the Muslims was scrapped. There was no antagonism between the Mughals and the Rajputs.

Administration Under Emperor Akbar

Akbar established a very effective bureaucracy to administer his huge empire. He assigned mansabars, or military governors, in charge of several areas, who reported directly to him. As an outcome, he unified India's several fiefdoms into a single empire that lasted until 1868.

- The Central administration of Emperor Akbar is in accordance with the formation of the Government in accordance with the administration of Delhi Sultanate.
- The Central administration comprises the Emperor, wazir, Mir Bakshi, Mir Saman, Chief Qazi, Sadrus Sudur, and Mutasibs.
- In the provincial administration, the subas or provinces are segregated and segmented 12 subas. The stratification goes on to the division of the suba, sarkar, paragana, and village.

Land Revenue Administration

Akbar established the system of land revenue that was renowned as Zabti or Bandobast. The system was based on the land revenue system established by Sher Shah. Raja Todar Mal is accredited for modifying the administration of land revenue. It was renowned as Dahshala system.

- The land has been segregated into four Polaj, Parauti, Chachar, and Banjar.
- Certain officials were allocated the responsibility of collecting crores of dams.
- The fixed revenue was based on the last ten years revenue. It was specified and fixed.
- Akbar focused on major upliftments and improvements in the land revenue system.

Mansabdari System

The Mansabdari system was established by Akbar during his administration. The ranks were associated with all the officials. The ranks were stratified as 10-5000. The lowest being 10 and the highest rank was known to be 100.

- Royal blood was allocated a higher rank.
- The ranks were stratified into two types that were Zat and Sawar.
- Sawar inferred the possession of the troops by an individual.
- The sawars were mandated to take care of at minimum two troops.
- The appointments and promotions were guided by the Emperor.

Jagirdari System

This system focused on allocating revenue to the specified territories to the nobles. This is an altered version of the Iqta of the Delhi sultanate. It forms an eminent part of the Mansabdari system. The jagirs were classified as the Tankha jagirs, Mashrut jagirs, and Altmagha jagirs. They possessed and inherited the rights over the lands. The zamindars also assisted in military services.

Rajput Policy of Akbar

The jizya policy that established the dominance of Muslims in the territory was scrapped by Akbar. He exchanged vows with the princess of Rajputs. They were made officials and also monitored military activities for several generations.

- Raja Man Singh and Raja Bhagwan Das are accredited for being chosen for contributing to higher responsibilities.
- The majority of the states of Rajasthan conceded to Akbar to rule their territories. Ranas of Mewar continued their aversion and led rebellions despite getting conquered numeorus times. Rana Pratap Singh was conquered in the battle of Haldighati.
- Rajputs were provided and facilitated with huge hospitality and kindness by Akbar.

Religious Policy of Akbar

The religious policy established by Akbar made his name imprinted in the leaves of history forever. He laid the fundamentals of equality and facilitated all citizens with equal rights. The Hindus served as the officials in his administration such as Todar Mal and Birbal.

- He held a keen interest in philosophy and religion. His shift in mindset from orthodox to liberal made him establish the firm doctrines of equality. In Fatehpur Sikri, he conducted religious discussions to which scholars of varied religions were invited.
- Later on the debates on religious practices were castigated as they led to grudges between the people of different religions.
- Din-i-illahi was established which contained the noteworthy points of all the religions. He presented the "Infallibility Decree" to declare his possession of religious rights. A temple for his wife Jodha was built at his own palace despite facing aversions for his action.

Art and Architecture During Akbar's Reign

Many remarkable art and architecture developed in the reign of Akbar such as the Fatehpur Sikri, and Buland Darwaja of Jama Masjid. The Tomb of Sikanadara was established by Akbar was later completed by his son Jahangir. The Persian translation of Ramayana and Mahabharata was also conducted during the reign of Akbar. Here is the list of establishments led by Akbar are as listed here-

- Govindadeva at Vrindavan
- Jahangir Mahal
- Allahabad Fort
- Agra Fort
- Tomb of Sikanadara
- Red Fort

Navratnas of Akbar

Nine of the courtiers were renowned to be the nine jewels of the Akbar. They were allocated numerous responsibilities and governed the administration of different departments. The table illustrates the list of the Navratnas of Akbar.

Navratnas of Akbar	Work
Abul Fazl	Author of Akbarnama, Guided the army in the Deccan
Faizi	Persian Poet
Tansen	The great musician, he was crowned the title of Mian.
Raja Birbal	Religious advisor, part of military
Raja Todar Mal	Handled revenue system
Raja Man Singh	General who was highly trusted by Akbar
Fakir Aziao Din	Advisor, Sufi Mystic
Abdul Rahim Khan-i-Khanan	Great poet

| Mirza Aziz Koka | Subedar of Gujarat |

Emperor Akbar - Legacy

Under the reign of Akbar, the walled cities covered the terrains of royal pleasure and comfort, aiming to dazzle the native rajas and advertise the eminence of his reign, expressing the ancestral love of the arts on a large scale. Akbar built the marvellous Red Fort beside the River Jamuna in the gorgeous capital city of Agra. Since then, Agra has become the storehouse for all of the riches and talent of one of the world's most powerful civilizations.

Emperor Akbar - Death

Emperor Akbar, who was 63 years old at the time, was diagnosed with dysentery in October 1605. He died at the end of the month after suffering from illness. In the imperial capital of Agra, he was buried in the magnificent mausoleum.
The legacy of Akbar of possessing firm and central control. The tax policies permitted the commoners to formulate precedence that can evolve its roots from Gandhi's thought. His passion and interest in the art forms presented a blended view of the Indian and Anatolian traditions they presented the epitome of Mughal excellence. Shah Jahan's reign attained the highest pinnacle of synthesis and constructed the Taj Mahal.