

7 Gr: Choices made by individuals/groups have present and future consequences. **Mughals**  
When two cultures meet; neither remains the same.  
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## Mughals

### Content Statement 8:

Empires in Africa (Ghana, Mali and Songhay) and Asia (Byzantine, Ottoman, **Mughal** and China) grew as commercial and cultural centers along trade routes.

### Content Elaboration

...The strong empire of the Mughals in northern India enabled art, architecture and culture to flourish. The Khyber Pass served as an important trade route...

### Expectations for Learning

Describe how empires in Africa (Ghana, Mali and Songhay) and Asia (Byzantine, Ottoman, **Mughal** and China) grew as commercial and cultural centers along trade routes.

The unit contains a short reading for each of the six major Mughal leaders:

- **Babur:** The First of the Mughals [Bab-ur]
  - Map
  - Video Clip
  - PowerPoint
- **\*Humayun:** The Luckless Leader
  - H.E.L.P. for Babar and Humayun: Father and Son: page 5
- **Akbar** the Great: Shah of Shahs
  - Map
  - Problem Solving his Capital City: page 8
  - Worksheet: page 9
- **Jahangir:** The Stable One
  - Link to the Enduring Understanding and Essential Question: page 10
- **Shah Jehan:** The Master Builder
  - Video Clip
- **Aurangzeb:** The Intolerant
  - Video Clip
  - Worksheet for Shah Jehan and Aurangzeb: page 15
- **Summary Organizer** for the Six Leaders: page 16

\*For a verbalized pronunciation of his name, click on the following and type his name:  
<http://www.howjsay.com/>



## **Mughals: Background**

**Reign 1526-1707**

After the dazzling period of the **Gupta Empire** and the reign of the Sultanate of Delhi in 1206, India saw the emergence of the largest ever empire with the rise of the **Mughal rule** in the country. The term 'Mughal' is the Persian equivalent of the term 'Mongol' which left a legacy of an Islamic dynasty from Eastern Europe to the Pacific Ocean.



### **Babur: The First of the Mughals**

**(Ruled: 1526-1530)**

**Babur** saw his royal heritage as the key to a future Islamic dynasty. His mother was a descendent of the greatest of the Mongol warriors, Ghengis Khan, while his father carried the blood of the legendary Timur the Lame (Tamerlane). Timbur invaded India through the **Khyber Pass** and later Babur would use the pass in 1505 and 1526 to establish his mighty Mughal empire.<sup>1</sup> The pass is the best connection of Eastern and Central Asian countries for trading purposes. The important goods which were transferred through this pass by camels included furs, skins, carpets, and fruits.<sup>2</sup>

Babur would never expand his own land holdings to even a fraction of that of Ghengis' whose empire was the largest the world has ever known. However, Babur seized a modest, but still impressive kingdom including the lands of present-day Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Pakistan. He chose the sultanate<sup>3</sup> of Delhi as his target.

From his base in Kabul, Afghanistan, Babur tried to seize Delhi. Over a century earlier, Timur had raided Delhi and managed to place a new dynasty on the throne. Therefore, as a direct descendent of Timur, Babur convinced himself that he could claim the throne as his right. But the Turkish sultan of Delhi refused to give in so easily, and he would not recognize Babur's claim. This left Babur with little choice but to invade and hope his forces could defeat the well-prepared defenders of Delhi.

It turned out to be an easy task. In 1526, Babur's forces crushed the Delhi army, largely due to Babur's access to artillery and gunpowder. After completing campaigns against several regional Hindu armies, Babur seized Delhi with no serious challengers. In doing so, Babur laid the groundwork for his own dynasty of Mongol warriors, known to the contemporary Persian world as **Mughals**.

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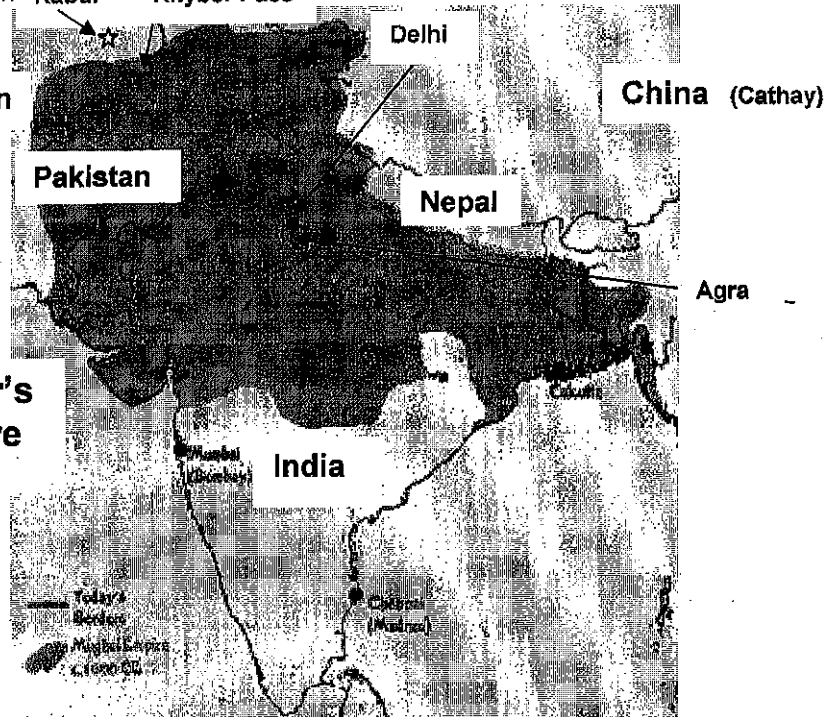
3

**Turkmenistan**

**Afghanistan**

**Pakistan**

**Babur's  
Empire**



Babur, unfortunately, never got the chance to take full advantage of his empire. He died suddenly in 1530, leaving the throne to his son, Humayun. Babur also left behind a handwritten memoir, penned in his native Turkish language that recounted almost 40 years of his adventures, ideas and opinions. This document, the **Baburnama**, is one of the earliest known autobiographical works in the Islamic world, and is perhaps the most detailed account of central Asian life of that period.

<http://edwebproject.org/india/babur.html>

<sup>1</sup><http://www.afghan-network.net/Culture/khyber.html>

<sup>2</sup>[http://www.theexperts.com.pk/Notes/CLASS%20X/ENGLISH/Chapter%2020/The\\_Khyber\\_Pass.htm](http://www.theexperts.com.pk/Notes/CLASS%20X/ENGLISH/Chapter%2020/The_Khyber_Pass.htm)

<sup>3</sup>**sultanate**: a country ruled by a sultan

**sultan**: a Muslim ruler of an Islamic country; a man who is powerful and especially one who behaves in a domineering or tyrannical fashion

<sup>4</sup><http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=babur+mughal+emperor&qpvt=babur+mughal+emperor&FORM=IGRE#x0y918> - picture and map

**Note:** PowerPoint – History of the Khyber Pass from Alexander the Great to the War on Terrorism  
[www.cdschools.org/.../lib/542270113154959/The\\_Khyber\\_Pass.ppt](http://www.cdschools.org/.../lib/542270113154959/The_Khyber_Pass.ppt)

**\*Video Clip: Warrior Empire – The Mughals (History Channel) –**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xU3E-MVZXS&feature=related>

- 0:00-2:38 Introduction of the Mughals
- 2:40-6:00 Warrior Empire: The Mughals of India

Patricia Clayton: Summit County (COS\_2011\_Series\_7gr) 1-27-12  
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2-29-12

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## Humayun: The Luckless Leader

(1530-1556, but deposed 1540-1555)

The stars always seemed to be against poor Humayun, who nearly lost the Mughal empire before it had barely begun. An intelligent man with a reputation for indecision and absentmindedness, Humayun was overthrown in 1540 by a rival sultan from Bengal. Helpless, Humayun lived in exile in Persia, spending his years trying to figure out just what had gone wrong in the first place.

The new ruler of Delhi died and passed the kingdom to his son. Humayun saw this transition as a chance to reassert his claim to the throne. He invaded northern India, and by 1555, recaptured his lost sultanate<sup>5</sup>. The Mughal dynasty would live on. It would not, however, live on much longer through Humayun himself, who only a year later died tragically by tripping down the steps of his library. The restoration and growth of the empire would be left to his young son, Akbar.



**Humayun's Tomb**

<http://edwebproject.org/india/humayun.html>

<sup>5</sup> **sultanate**: a country ruled by a sultan

**sultan**: a Muslim ruler of an Islamic country; a man who is powerful and especially one who behaves in a domineering or tyrannical fashion

**Note:** C.S. 8 – Content Elaboration: The strong empire of the Mughals in northern India enabled art, architecture and culture to flourish. The Khyber Pass served as an important trade route.

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**Babur and Humayun: Father and Son**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Complete the H.E.L.P. organizer for the early rulers.

H	E	L	P

2. Who established and ruled the largest empire in world history?

- A. Athens
- B. Alexander the Great
- C. Babur
- D. Genghis Khan

3. Describe the economic importance of the Khyber Pass.

4. Identify and explain two examples of how a sultan is similar to another type of governmental system.

5. Summarize a significant similarity and difference between Babur and his son Humayun.

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## **Akbar the Great: Shah of Shahs**

**(Ruled: 1556-1605)**

Fortunately for him, Akbar did not inherit the luckless habits of his father, Humayun. Instead, the young monarch began what was to be the greatest reign of the Mughal dynasty. A powerful and brave character in his own right, tales of his superhuman strength and cunning warrior's mind preceded Akbar wherever he went. This reputation undoubtedly helped him expand the empire, as he conquered nearly all of modern-day northern India and Pakistan, and successfully converted independent states into vassals or territories. [Vassal: somebody who gave loyalty to a feudal lord and received the right to occupy the lord's land and to be protected by him.]

Beyond his ability as an effective conqueror, Akbar was a keen administrator who developed a centralized federal government that delegated tasks to powerful bureaucracies. But above all, he is perhaps best known for recognizing the importance of tolerance, which was paramount to his dynasty's long and successful future. A ruling class of Muslims could only last so long if its Hindu subjects lacked the opportunities and respect necessary for their own success. Therefore, Akbar removed the tax on Hindus, despite the traditional mandate in Islam to tithe non-believers, and invited scores of religious scholars, including Hindus, Jews, and Christians, to debate him personally in his private chambers, often late into the night. Akbar's wives were also of different religious backgrounds - each marriage was thus a strategic union that would allow the followers of India's many faiths to feel that they too were a part of the royal household.

Over time, Akbar's fascination with religion grew to almost an obsession when he fashioned his own faith, called **Din Ilahi**. His new faith was a diverse mix of the other religions Akbar had studied during those late-night debates. He borrowed what he saw as the best components of each and blended them into the mixture that became Din Ilahi. The new faith, however, never caught on among the Hindus and Muslims outside of his court. Despite this failure, Akbar continued to support religious tolerance among his people. India achieved a supreme degree of unity, partly owing to his policy of encouraging capable men from the Hindu majority to participate in the administration of his empire.<sup>6</sup>

Finally, Akbar was the most mobile of the Mughals - every decade or so, it seemed, he moved the capital of the empire from one city to another. Nine years into his reign, Akbar established a new capital at Agra, where he built the marvelous Agra Fort. But by the 1570s, he moved it again, 40 miles west of Agra, to a new capital called Fatehpur Sikri. A local mystic, Chisti, had successfully predicted the birth of Akbar's first male son in 1569, so in honor of Chisti, Akbar built a mosque and eventually the new capital by the site of the home of the holy man. The new capital city was the architectural gem of his reign, but after less than 20 years there, Akbar packed his

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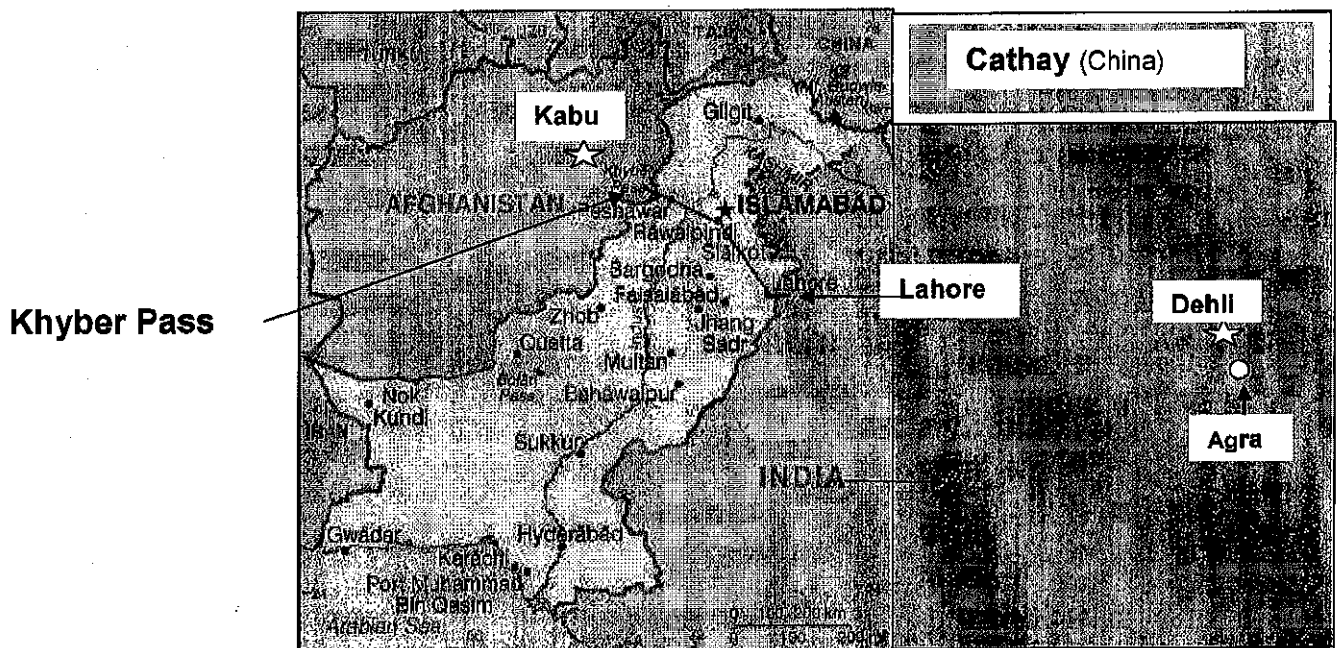
bags again and moved far north to **Lahore** (present-day Pakistan). The trade route from Kabul through the Khyber Pass provided Lahore markets with horses, fruit, silk, porcelain, and precious metals in exchange for Indian spices, textiles, and other goods.<sup>7</sup>

Eventually Akbar resettled in Agra and was buried outside the city in 1605. The throne was then assumed by his son Jehangir.

#### Akbar's Architectural Legacy:

Humayun's Tomb, Delhi (1560s)  
Arab Sarai, Delhi (1560s)  
Khair-ul Manazil Masjid, Delhi (1561)  
Adham Khan's Tomb, Delhi (c. 1562)  
Dargah of Nizam-ud-din, Delhi (1562-?)  
Ataga Khan's Tomb, Delhi (1566)  
Afsarwala Mosque and Tomb, Delhi (1566)  
Agra Fort, including Amar Singh Gate and Jehangiri Mahal, Agra (1565-70)  
Ajmer Fort and Pavilion, Ajmer (1570-72)

Lahore Fort and Palace, Lahore  
Jama Masjid, Fatehpur Sikri (1571)  
Shaikh Salim Chishti's Tomb, Fatehpur Sikri (1571-80)  
Islam Khan's Tomb, Fatehpur Sikri  
Palace, Fatehpur Sikri (1571-85)  
Buland Darwaza, Fatehpur Sikri (1575-6)  
Allahabad Fort and Palace, Allahabad (1583)  
Muhammad Ghaus's Tomb, Gwalior  
Hari Parbat Fort, Srinagar (1586)  
Barber's Tomb, Delhi (1590)



<http://www.bing.com/images/search?c=khyber+pass&view=detail&id=C50B6885C5D48E487F928A41117C8186C08CEA7&first=0&qpv=khyber+pass&FORM=IDFRIR> - map

<http://edwebproject.org/india/akbar.html>

<sup>6</sup> World History: 50 key milestones you really need to know by Ian Crofton

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.san.beck.org/2-9-MughalEmpire1526-1707.html>

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**Video 42:56 – 47:00 Akbar:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xU3E-MVZXSY&feature=related> **See Teacher Notes page 17.**

### Problem Solving: Topic Akbar's New Capital City

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Step to Solve a Problem	Team #:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify the <u>Problems</u>.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What were the <u>Solutions</u>?</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Results</u> of the Solution. (Positive – Negative)</li> </ul>	



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**Akbar**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Like most new leaders in power, there are choices for handling multiple religions in your empire. What were two common religious choices for Akbar? What was Akbar's choice and predict his reasoning for the final religious choice that he made.
2. Political stability is necessary for the success of an empire. What plans did Akbar develop to support his political stability?
3. Explain economic and trade impacts of Akbar's frequent movement of his capital city.
4. Describe an architectural legacy left by Akbar.

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## **Jahangir: The Stable One** (Jehangir)

(Ruled: 1605-1627)



Compared to his legendary father Akbar, Jahangir was neither a glamorous monarch nor adventurous warrior. He was, however, quite competent in maintaining the status quo for over 20 years. Dividing his time mostly between Lahore and Agra, Jahangir was content to maintain the centralized government, support the arts, and he slightly expanded the borders of the empire.

Jahangir promised to protect Islam and granted general amnesty to his opponents. He was also notable for his patronage of the arts, especially paintings. During his reign the distinctive style of Mughal painting expanded and blossomed. Jahangir supported a flourishing culture of court painters. Jahangir took his expertise of art very seriously. Paintings created under his reign were closely catalogued, dated and even signed, providing scholars with fairly accurate ideas as to when and in what context many of the pieces were created.<sup>8</sup>

He is probably best known for being the father of Shah Jehan, the ever-constructing sultan who built the most famous landmark in India, the Taj Mahal and then later the Red Fort at Delhi.

It was during Jahangir's reign that the British obtained formal permission to trade in certain areas of the Mughal Empire. This was perhaps his greatest mistake. Within a hundred years these traders went on to become the rulers of the Sub-continent and controlled the Mughals.<sup>9</sup>

<http://edwebproject.org/india/jehangir.html>

<sup>8</sup><http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jahangir>

<sup>9</sup><http://www.storyofpakistan.com/person.asp?perid=P058>

1. Link the following Enduring Understanding and Essential Question to the life of Jahangir:
  - Choices made by individuals/groups have present and future consequences.
  - How do we know what really happened in the past?

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## Shah Jehan: The Master Builder

(Ruled: 1627-1658)

While his grandfather Akbar is best known for developing the Mughal empire, it is Shah Jehan who is remembered as the sultan who spent his time literally *building* it. Shah Jehan was a patron of the arts and a lover all things big: big mosques, big forts, and big gemstones. He commissioned hundreds of paintings and engravings for his palaces, many of which survive to this day.



The most enduring of Shah Jehan's creations were his massive construction projects. Employing a mix of Persian sophistication and local Hindu engineering know-how, Shah Jehan defined the architectural style recognized the world over as 'Mughal.' The Red Fort and the Jama Masjid, both in Delhi, stand out as towering achievements of both civil engineering and art. Yet above all else, we remember Shah Jehan today for the Taj Mahal, the massive white marble mausoleum constructed for his wife along the banks of a river in Agra.



[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/india/gal\\_india\\_north\\_05.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/india/gal_india_north_05.shtml)

Shah Jehan's wife died during childbirth soon after he ascended to the throne. Grief-stricken, he decided to build the Taj Mahal as a tribute and final resting place for her. It took over a decade to build, and it nearly bankrupted the empire, but Shah Jehan had his monument for the ages.

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He continued to spend lavishly, beginning new construction projects and restoring old ones (including the Agra Fort, first built by Akbar two generations earlier). He even commissioned the creation of a brilliant gold throne encased in hundreds of precious gems - the Peacock Throne, a symbol of Mughal royalty until it was stolen and claimed by the Persians a century later.

As a support to trade, Shah Jegan minted coins that became the standard for centuries. He reformed tariffs by having customs collected only at frontiers and places of sale. Several long roads were built and were lined with shade trees and provided rest stations that also served as inns and places for communication.<sup>10</sup>

But despite his successes as a patron of art and architecture, Shah Jehan was unable to judge the discontent among his own court. A power struggle among his sons arose and eventually, the ruthless prince Aurangzeb confined his father (Shah Jehan) in the Octagonal Tower. The tower was part of the Agra Fort that was originally built by Shan Jehan himself. He would remain there until his death, eight years later, in 1666. He was then buried next to his wife in the Taj Mahal.

#### Samples of Shah Jehan's Architectural Legacy:

Mahal, Diwan-i-Khas, and Diwan-i-Am, Agra (1627-38)

**Taj Mahal, Agra (1631-52)** [pictures at <http://www.kamat.com/indica/insignia/tajmahal.htm>]

Black Pavilion (Shalimar Bagh), Srinagar (1630)

Wazir Khan's Mosque, Lahore (1634)

Palaces in Lahore Fort, including Chati Khwabgah, Diwan-i-Am, and Mussaman  
Shahjehanabad, Delhi (1638-48)

**Red Fort and Palace, Delhi (1639-48)**

- <http://edwebproject.org/india/shahjehan.html>

- <http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=shah+jehan&qpv=shah+jehan&FORM=IGRE#x0y0>  
(photographs)

Chini ka Rauza, Agra (c. 1639)

Jama Masjid, Agra (1648)

Jama Masjid, Delhi (1650-6)

Fatehpuri Masjid, Delhi (1650)

Moti Masjid (Agra Fort), Agra (1654)

<http://edwebproject.org/india/shahjehan.html>

<sup>10</sup><http://www.san.beck.org/2-9-MughalEmpire1526-1707.html#3>

#### **\*Show: Warrior Empire – The Mughals**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xU3E-MVZXS&feature=related>

59:50- 1:11:25 play a portion of this clip

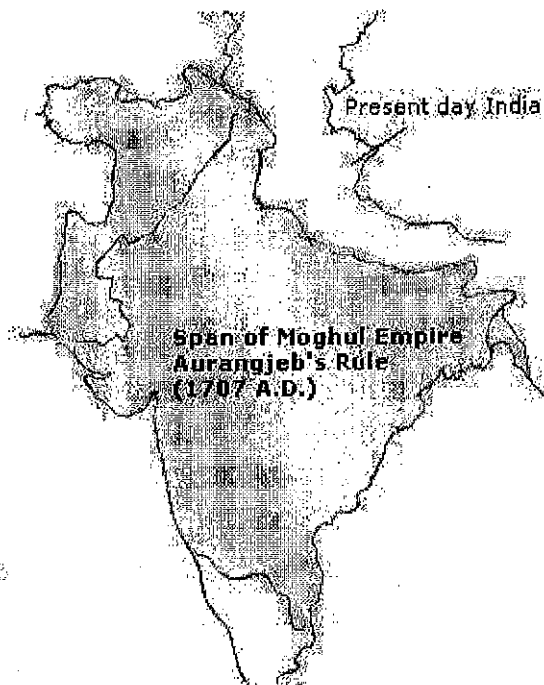
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## **Aurangzeb: The Intolerant** (Ruled: 1658-1707)

By most accounts, Aurangzeb was an aggressive warrior. Much less tolerant of other religions than his great-grandfather Akbar, Aurangzeb spent much of his time making enemies with the Hindus of northern India. He removed the tax-free status that Akbar had granted the Hindus, destroyed their temples, and crushed their vassal states that had previously enjoyed semi-independent status. In addition, unlike his father, Aurangzeb was a cultureless man and executed his father's court artists.<sup>11</sup>

Aurangzeb was a conqueror from the start, having deposed his father Shah Jehan and mercilessly executed his own brothers. For the next 49 years, he pushed his kingdom's territory expanding into the far south of India through the Deccan plain. Despite his successful capture of the world's only known diamond mines since the time of Rome<sup>12</sup>, Aurangzeb was unable to maintain this over expanded empire. The vastness of the empire strained its army, its bureaucracy, and its economy, and when Aurangzeb died in 1707, the empire was near the point of collapse.



<sup>11</sup>Quote: <http://www.kamat.com/kalranga/mogul/aurangzeb.htm>

<sup>12</sup><http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xU3E-MVZXS&feature=related>

Map & Picture: <http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=aurangzeb&qpv=aurangzeb&FORM=IGRE>

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His successor and son, Bahadur Shah, was so old by the time Aurangzeb died, he only managed to live a few more years before passing on the throne again. But at this point in time, the government had become so weak, the empire became an easy target of invasion first by the Persians, and then by the British.

With the rise of the British Raj<sup>13</sup> in India, the Mughals' time as absolute monarchs was near an end. In 1803, British Raj forces captured both Delhi and Agra, and the Mughals themselves became vassals of the British. By 1858, the Mughals had burnt themselves out - the last Moghul Sultan, sided against the British during the Sepoy Mutiny. When the British regained control, Bahadur Shah II was exiled, his monarchy abolished, and his heirs executed. The glory that was once the Mughal Empire was now but a faint memory.

<http://edwebproject.org/india/aurangzeb.html>

<sup>13</sup>British Raj was the British rule of India from 1858 to 1947.

## Trade Summary

The Khyber Pass was an early gateway to trade relations between Europe and Western Asia and India. India had flourishing trade relations with many parts of the world, with foreign trade being an important part of the Indian economy. The chief Indian imports of the time were raw silks, gold, ivory, precious stones, perfumes, horses and slaves. Chief exports included textiles, spices, opium and indigo. The land routes usually went via Afghanistan, but land transportation was not very safe or reliable. River and sea transport were the popular choices. Customs duties during the period were very low on all imports and exports. European traders were also beginning to play an important role in Indian trade, with many of them setting up warehouses and distribution points in the empire. Most Indian goods, however, were affordable only by the rich Europeans.

For the most part, the economy flourished during the Mughal period; however, it began to deteriorate after the death of Aurangzeb. As the Mughal Empire declined, the country was thrown into chaos and caused major damage to the Indian economy. During the 1700s this led to the increased control of the British in India and resulted in India becoming a colony.

<http://library.thinkquest.org/C006203/cgi-bin/stories.cgi?article=economy&section=history/mughals&frame=parent>

**Option: Show: Warrior Empire – The Mughals (History Channel)**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xU3E-MVZXS&feature=related>

1:14:32- 1:16:00

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**Shan Jehan and Aurangzeb**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

1. The Mughal Empire left behind a legacy of architecture. Explain how Shan Jehan contributed to this enduring contribution.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Shan Jehan followed his personal interest at the expense of the daily life of his people. Prove or disprove this statement.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Aurangzeb was known as the Intolerant Sultan. Explain how his rule of the Mughal Empire is represented by this title.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What were the economic and political decisions of Aurangzeb that contributed to the British control of the Indian trade and economy?

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**Mughal Empire: Leadership and Legacies**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

16

Leader	Arts	Architecture	Trade	Political	Memorable Events
Babur		X			
Humayn	X		X		
Akbar					
Jehangir		X			
Shah Jehan					
Aurangzeb		X			

**So What -- What is the pattern or generalization?**



### Arts

Buildings are filled with detailed inlays of art work  
Killed all his father's craftsmen  
New Mughal Art patron- loved paintings and catalogued the paintings  
Peacock throne covered with gems  
Wrote details of daily life in his biography

### Architecture

Humayn's tomb  
Built Taj Mahal ,Red Fort  
Kept building new capital cities, built mosques

### Trade

Gave permission for foreign countries to trade with India  
Used Khyber Pass trade route to invade India  
Craftsmen were brought in to construct his buildings  
Struggled with British to expand trade  
Trade routes moved to align with his new capital cities

### Political

Lived in exile but returned to Delhi  
Harsh treatment of non Muslims  
Conquered Delhi  
Nearly bankrupted his empire – imprisoned his son  
Cunning warrior and expanded his empire, religious toleration,  
Maintained his father's government patterns

### Memorable events

Protected Islam – father of Shah Jehan  
Killed his brothers, imprisoned his father  
Died from Falling down library steps  
Loved his wife and built Taj Mahal  
Related to Genghis Khan and first Mughal Sultan  
Started his own religion, moved capital several times, married wives of all religions