

Mughal Empire – Complete Exam Summary

Timeline of Mughal Emperors

Ruler	Period
Babur	1526–1530
Humayun	1530–1540 & 1555–1556
Akbar	1556–1605
Jahangir	1605–1627
Shah Jahan	1628–1658
Aurangzeb	1658–1707
Later Mughals	1707–1857

Major Wars of Mughal Empire

Battle	Year	Rulers Involved
Panipat I	1526	Babur vs Ibrahim Lodi
Khanwa	1527	Babur vs Rana Sanga
Ghagra	1529	Babur vs Afghans
Chausa	1539	Humayun vs Sher Shah
Kannauj	1540	Humayun vs Sher Shah
Panipat II	1556	Akbar (Bairam Khan) vs Hemu
Deccan Wars	1590s–1707	Akbar/Aurangzeb vs Deccan Sultanates

Contemporaries of Mughal Emperors

• Babur – Rana Sanga, Krishna Deva Raya • Humayun – Sher Shah Suri, Bahadur Shah of Gujarat
• Akbar – Maharana Pratap, Portuguese, Early Sikh Gurus • Jahangir – Malik Ambar, British (Sir Thomas Roe), Nur Jahan • Shah Jahan – Guru Hargobind, European traders • Aurangzeb – Shivaji, Sambhaji, Guru Tegh Bahadur, Rajputs

Architecture vs Painting Comparison

Mughal Architecture:

- Buland Darwaza, Fatehpur Sikri – Akbar
- Taj Mahal, Red Fort, Jama Masjid – Shah Jahan
- Marble age with pietra-dura work

- Gardens, symmetry, domes, arches

Mughal Paintings:

- Akbar – Illustrated manuscripts (Akbarnama, Hamzanama)
- Jahangir – Naturalism, portraits, animal studies (Ustad Mansur)
- Shah Jahan – Decorative paintings
- Decline under Aurangzeb

One-Page Exam Summary

- Babur founded Mughal Empire after defeating Lodi & Rajputs.
- Humayun lost to Sher Shah, returned with Persian help.
- Akbar built administration (mansabdari, zabt), expanded empire, promoted Sulh-i-Kul.
- Jahangir – peak of Mughal painting, British entry.
- Shah Jahan – golden age of architecture (Taj Mahal).
- Aurangzeb – largest expansion but empire weakened due to long Deccan wars.
- Later Mughals weak → Marathas & British gained control; Empire ended in 1857.