

# Akbar & Birbal : Tales of Humour

-By Monisha Mukundan

## Introduction

I chose to read Akbar & Birbal : Tales of Humour because these stories were a part of my childhood. I didn't even need a book back then my grandparents or parents would just tell me these stories during bedtime or in the afternoons when the power was out. Birbal was always the clever one, and I used to be amazed at how he always had the perfect answer. Now that I'm older, I wanted to see if the stories still made me feel the same way or not .

## Summary

The book is a collection of short and funny stories that all take place in the court of Emperor Akbar. Each story starts with some kind of problem either a tricky question, a challenge, or some strange situation. And every time, it's Birbal who finds the smartest and funniest way to solve it.

Akbar is showed as a kind and curious ruler who truly values intelligence and honesty. Whenever there is a problem, Birbal remains calm and can offer the best solution to all situations. Birbal is his closest friend and adviser. Additional characters such as courtiers or locals add more excitement and twists to the plot.

Even though the stories are short, they don't feel meaningless. Each one leaves a little thought behind like how thinking simply can solve big problems, or how honesty always wins. They're easy to read, fun to follow, and actually leave you smiling or even thinking after they end.

## Analysis & Opinion

This book was enjoyable, especially for the simplicity in reading it. The writing style was simple and straightforward, giving the impression of a casual conversation over tea or jogging. Monisha Mukundan crafted the stories with a fresh and uncomplicated style, drawing inspiration from old tales.

Birbal, of course, steals the show. He's not loud or dramatic he's just smart in a calm, gentle way. There's one line he says in a story: "Sometimes, the smallest voice carries the loudest truth." That really stuck with me. It reminded me that you don't always have to be loud to be right and that small, honest thoughts can be very powerful.

Akbar's character is also really likeable. He's not just the king he listens to people, learns from them, and doesn't act like he knows everything. His respect for Birbal shows that true leaders are those who value others, not just themselves.

One small thing I noticed was that a few of the stories started to feel a bit similar after a while. Like, the structure kind of repeats there's a problem, everyone's confused, and then Birbal solves it. But honestly, even though I noticed that, it didn't make the stories boring. They were still fun to read.

Overall, I think the book quietly reminded me that we often make problems feel bigger than they are and sometimes, a calm mind and a little humour are all we really need.

## Personal Connection

This book really brought back memories . It reminded me of those afternoons where time felt slower, and all I needed was a story and some imagination to be happy. That feeling doesn't come often anymore, and reading this book kind of brought it back.

It also made me reflect on how I deal with things now. I sometimes stress over small problems or overthink situations, like Akbar sometimes does in the stories. But Birbal's approach thinking simply, acting wisely, and staying calm made me want to try that more in real life. It reminded me to just breathe and not make things more complicated than they are.

he keeps things simple, and sometimes even makes people laugh, while still solving the issue. That's something I'd really like to be able to do, especially when life feels a bit too serious.

## Conclusion

Would I recommend Akbar & Birbal : Tales of Humour ? Definitely. It's a book that anyone can enjoy kids, teens, or even adults. It's not just about funny stories, it's also about smart thinking, kindness, and staying calm under pressure.

If you're looking for something simple but meaningful, this book is perfect. It's also a great one for parents to read with their kids it's simple, fun, and has lots of small life lessons combined into each story. It really reminded me that the smartest answers often come in the simplest form and that's a lesson I think we all need now and then