

# 1 | Mughals in the 1600s

#flo #disorganized

- Akbar's rule of the Mughals
  - Tried to align his subject's interests to the Mughal's interest
  - Goal was to maintain adequate compensation and preventing officials from unjust enrichment by overtaxing the peasants who could then not work on government projects
    - \* Directed administration to award land revenue salary instead of assigning land
    - \* Value of government official based on cost w.r.t. operating military men
      - a local commander = 500 men
      - a provincial government = 5000 men
    - \* First model of separation of powers between government and military
    - \* Prevented financial corruption
      - Made constant transfers and deferrals
      - Prevented passing on of wealth to offspring
    - \* His minister, Todar Mal, made tax collection proportional to value generation
      - So bad crop year could pay less tax
      - Prevented overluxuriant and benefitted peasants
  - Favored appointment of native born over foreign — due to pledges of loyalty to Mughal state: promoting religious indigency
- CLAIM: Melded together Mughal and indigenous elites
  - Encouraged intermarriage
  - Reforms aimed at selling Mughal to other people
  - All official appointments are treated as gifts from the emperor
  - Gave grants to Muslim and Hindu cultural institutions
  - Supported the arts and sciences
- Akbar made empire popular by pimping it up
  - Improved living quarters
  - Regulation of school
  - System of laws
  - Challenged the patriarchy and improved the role of woman
  - Discouraged child marriages and encouraged remarrying of widows
- Intended all of his social reform to support his object of *sulh-i-kul* => universal harmony. (Not a fan of *raison d'état*, I see)
- The Portuguese
  - Acted as middlemen between Venetians, Arabs, and Turks
    - \* Traded spices and cotton
    - \* Served as foundation of Western medicines
    - \* De Gama's Explorations
      - Invaded port of good hope in Africa

- Disguised as Muslim traders
  - When about to be kicked out, fought and burned the city
  - Zamorin also got scammed by de Gama too
  - Convinced that he was a pirate
  - Did not drive off, and permitted to trade
  - Kidnapped some local fishermen for crew along the way
- \* Eventually, setup a larger network of trade
- Mughals saw the Portuguese, and wanted to curtail them
  - Resorted to a model of compromise => “Gave free passage to ships in exchange for pilgrims on their way to Mecca
  - Portuguese, Dutch, and English collectively tried to “interfere in international shipping
    - \* Seizure of a ship by practicing Hindu
  - Mughals eventually partnered with English and Dutch to try to curtail the Portuguese and create competition
  - English and Dutch both adopted the Portuguese model
  - Mughals tried to create strategic partnership with European cultures
    - \* Ordered Christian symbolism to be painted
    - \* Europeans impressed with Mughal style that Mogul became associated with power
- Aurangzeb’s rule
  - Orthodox Muslim
    - \* Took religious values over tradition
    - \* Dismantled Mughal’s multiculturalism
      - Banned music and dance
      - Enforced Islamic codes of public conduct via censors
      - Halt construction of new Hindu temples
      - Attack established structures
      - Reimposed the jizya payment in lieu of state service that is demanded from non-Muslims
      - Enforced system of jizya payments that had to be done while chanting about inferiority
      - Opposed appointing Hindus to highest ranks
    - \* Hindus and other non-Muslim cultural icons lamented this
    - \* Shah Jahan’s army campaigns increased tax revenue to meet higher expectations
      - Hindu agricultural exploration fell hardest
      - Shivaji contradicted the Mughal court
      - Which means, he got quickly struck down
      - Escaped the court, and went to the Marathas

- 1674-1680 started invading Mughals in gurilla campaigns
- Which, is a self-deprecating loop — causing Auranzb to invest even MORE money on fighting
- Created the Marathas empire
- Muhammed Akbar opposed his fathers rules
- Fled to Arabia
- Tortured and killed son of Shiviaji
- \* Also started a struggle with the Briting East India Company
  - Started complaining of higher taxes
  - Interpreted their license to say that they would only need to pay taxes at major international ports
  - In defense, the company declared war against the Mughals
  - The Mughals retaliated by destroying corporate stations
  - Eventually forced negotiations to sink Muslim ships bound for Mecca
  - Eventually forced back into trade negotiations after a larger fine
  - This incident humiliated both the Mughals and the company — displeasing European directors
- \* Fights of independence broke out among the Marathas and the Hindu-predominant north between 1674-1680
- In the end, Aurangzeb ended his life noting "I don't know who I am, nor what I have been doing"
- Marathas won great parts of Mughal territory
  - \* Empire's rulers force to pay tribute to Marathas
  - \* Others paid a largely symbolic to the Mughals

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#### #disorganized #flo

- India is very hard to rule in a very centralized way
  - Deccan plateau to the south
    - \* Hard to conquer
    - \* Have to re-conquer because people did not respect his rule
  - Gangatic plain to the north
    - \* Easy to conquer
  - Rajputs

- \* Small city-states with isolated rules
- \* With independent principalities

And now, we are comparing palaces?

- Chende constructed to match people's religions
  - Instead of meeting people in the impressively Han seat of power, meet at a more relaxed place
  - Both asserted power in the main palace and appeased ethnicity in the summer palace
- Agra constructed to be a mix of religions
  - Instead of meeting people in the strictly Muslim seat of power, meet at a more.... fortified place
  - Both asserted power in to Tokata and appeased ethnicity in the summer palace