

18. 03. 21

## Later Mughals (1707 — 1857)

### Bahadur Shah I<sup>st</sup> (1707-12)

- He was an old Badshah also known as Muazzam, Shah-Alam I<sup>st</sup>,
- He adopted the policy of friendly relations with Rajputs, policy of struggle against Sikhs & policy of diplomacy against Marathas (by releasing Shahji who was in Mughal jail & creating a condition of civil war in Maratha territory).
- He also tried to pacify Hindus by liberalising restrictions on Hindus (liberalised  $\&$   $Tizya$ )
- He continued struggle with <sup>Sanda</sup> Baj Bahadur, Sikh leader, even died doing so.

According to a Historian Sydney, he was the last Mughal ruler about whom anything good could be said about. He was also called "Shah-e-Bekhabar" (because of his absentmindedness in administrative functions)

He was replaced by Jehandar Shah

### Jehandar Shah (1712-13)

He was supported by a minister Zulfiquar Khan. He was also made Wazir. Jehandar Shah was under the influence of a dancer Sal Kunwar.

- The period of Jehandar Shah is also known for unmanaged & uncontroled way of distributing Jagirs. It led to decline in the economic condition of Mughals.
- Zulfiquar Khan started allotting Ijara (Revenue collection)

after on contract, so it increased the exploitation of farmers.

- Jehandar Shah gave the title of "Mirza" to Raja Sawai Tai Singh, & also gave Subedari of Malwa.
- He gave the title of "Maharaja" to Raja Ajit Singh & "Suberdari of Gujarat".
- He allowed the right of "Chauth" & "Sardehmukhi" to Marathas only in a condition that it would be collected by Mughal officials.
- Jehandar Shah was removed by Sayyid Brothers (Hindustani group)
- J. Shah was killed by Farrukhsaiyer.

### Farrukhsaiyer : (1713-19)

- He was supported by Sayyid Brothers, Abdulla Khan & Hussain Ali Khan.

Abdulla Khan was made Wazir  
& Husain Ali Khan was made  
Mir Bakshi (Head of Army).

- Basically Mughal court nobles were divided into groups —

Turani — Central Asian

Irani — Persian

Hindustani — those Muslims  
who were earlier  
Hindus converted to  
Islam or those  
whose forefathers  
were living in India  
for long.

- Farrukhsiyar led to the killing  
of Zulfiquar Khan, Sayyid Brothers  
did military expedition against  
Raja Ajit Singh who was defeated  
& forced to marry his daughter  
to Farrukhsiyar.
- Sikh leader Banda Bahadur was also  
killed during the rule of  
Farrukhsiyar.

In 1719, Sayyid Brothers did the treaty of Delhi with Peahwa Balaji Bishwanath under which Marathas will support Sayyid Brothers in case of any political instability.

- Farrukhaiser started feeling the dominance of Sayyid Brothers / Hindustani group of nobles so he tried to do conspiracy against them with the help of other groups of nobles, when exposed was blinded & killed.
- Two other rulers were appointed
  - Rafi - ud - ud - darjat
  - Rafi - ud - daulah (Shah Jahan II)But they failed to sustain for long.

Sayyid Brothers appointed another ruler  
Roshan Akhtar

Muhammad Shah Rangila (1719 - 48)

Roshan Akhtar became Badshah with a title of Muhammad Shah.  
In 1720, Balaji Bishwanath died.

This gave an opportunity to other groups of nobles to move against Hindustani Block. They were headed by Chir Ghich Khan. In 1722,

Sayyid Brothers were eliminated & Chir Ghich Khan became Wazir with a title of "Nizam-ul-Mulk".

- In 1724, Nizam-ul-Mulk, irritated by the suspicious behaviour of Muhammad Shah Rangila left the post of wazir & founded the independent kingdom of Hyderabad in South. This dynasty got recognition from Mughal Badshah Moh. Shah Rangila who gave them the title of "Asaf Jahan" dynasty.
- This was also a period of emergence of many autonomous states like Bengal (Murshid Quli Khan) Awadh (Saadat Khan) Hyderabad (Nizam-ul-Mulk) Bharatpur & Mathura (Badan Singh) etc

In 1738-39, during the rule of Rangila, India faced the invasion of Iranian Ruler Nadir Shah, who was also called Napoleon of Iran.

In February, 1739, Mughal Army were badly defeated by Nadir Shah in the Battle of Karnal. Nizam-ul-Mulk of Hyderabad started doing negotiations with Nadir Shah & the deal was closed at 50 lakh Rupees. But Nawab of Awadh Saadat Khan encouraged Nadir Shah to attack Delhi in a way to make more money.

So, in March 1739, Nadir Shah entered Delhi, brutal massacre of around 20,000 people, ordered his soldiers to do mass looting, stayed in Delhi for 57 days. Returned Iran with lot of wealth including Peacock Throne (Takht-e-Taus) / (Mazar Sikandar) / & Kohinoor

In 1739 he died in 1747 after which his empire was divided amongst his generals, one of them was Ahmad Shah Abdali who established (Durani) Durani Empire in Afghanistan also called "Dur-e-Durani" (Dur-e-Durani)

He invaded Punjab in 1748 & continued invading till 1767.

(In 1761, he fought famous 3rd Battle of Panipat against Marathas in which Marathas were defeated badly.

Moh. Shah was always involved in the activities of Harem & so he got the title of Rangila.

He was replaced by Ahmad Shah

### Ahmad Shah (1748-54)

Ahmad Shah was installed with the help of Irani group. (Irani group was very strong as

Nadir Shah has recently invaded India). Nawab of Awadh Safdarjung (belonging to Irani group) became Wazir. During the rule of Ahmad Shah, the Durani ruler of Afghanistan Ahmad Shah Abdali attacked 5 times. Mother of Ahmad Shah was Rajmata Udham Bai who was also famous with a title Bila-e-Islam, she was highly involved in administrative functions. When Irani group became weak, the Turani group under the leadership of Imad-ul-Mulk removed Safdarjung from the post of Wazir & himself became Wazir. In 1754, he removed Ahmad Shah & appointed Alamgir II as a new Badshah.

## Alamgir II<sup>nd</sup> (1754-59) :-

A Mughal Princee Azizuddin was made Mughal ~~Rasbat~~ Badshah with a title [Alamgir II<sup>nd</sup>] Durangzeb was called Alamgir I<sup>st</sup>. He was a puppet in the hands of Imad-ul-Mulk.

He was killed in 1759, famous battle of Plassey happened during his rule.

## Shah Alam II<sup>nd</sup> (1859 1759-1806)

He participated in Battle of Buxar along with Nawab of Bengal Mir Qasim & Nawab of Awadh Shuja-ud-Daulah. He was defeated by Britishers & forced to sign Treaty of Allahabad in 1765.

Shah Alam II became a pensioner of Britishers.

In 1772, he reached Delhi & sat on the crown with the help of Maratha Sardar Mahadji Scindia. After this Mughal in Delhi were under the protection of Maratha. He died in 1806. (he was the Mughal Ruler when in 1803 Britishers captured Delhi).

He was succeeded by Akbar II.

### Akbar II (1806-37)

He was the 1st Mughal Ruler who was crowned under the protection of Britishers.

He gave the title of Raja to great Social Reformer Ram Mahan Roy & sent him as his ambassador to Britain requesting them on 2 issues —

- a) to continue ban on related to social evils.
- b) to continue the pension.

He was succeeded by the last Mughal Ruler Bahadur Shah II. (1837-1857).

He was the last Mughal ruler, the Mughal rule which was started with 1st Battle of Panipat in 1526, who ended with the Revolt of 1857 (after ruling Indian Subcontinent for more than 300 years). He was always involved in writing Shayari with his penname Zafar. He was the leader of Revolt of 1857 which was suppressed by Britishers.

He was exiled to Rangoon where he died in 1862.