

Article

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- The government recently decided to give the **Mughal Gardens at Rashtrapati Bhavan a new name, "Amrit Udyan."**
- This change was made as **part of celebrations for Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.**
- Some leaders from the ruling party said this change **represents India moving away from feeling like a follower and shows progress and a better future for the country.**
- The Mughal Empire was a powerful group of rulers who controlled a big piece of South Asia from the 1500s to the 1800s.
- Some people today are **changing names associated with the Mughals**, which shows a wish to remove their influence from public view.
- This connects with a belief by some **Hindu nationalists that the Mughals made people feel like slaves and should be forgotten**
- It's also linked to the idea that **Muslim rulers are seen as taking over a Hindu land**, just like the British did later.
- Over the past nine years, the Indian government, which supports Hindu nationalism, has been changing the names of many places, historical sites, and organizations that have connections to the Mughal rulers.
- In 2018, the Uttar Pradesh state government, led by Yogi Adityanath, changed the name of a city called **Allahabad**, which was given that name by the Mughal emperor Akbar. They changed it to **Prayagraj**.
- During the same year, the state government also gave a new name to **Mughal Sarai Railway Station, renaming it after a person named Deen Dayal Upadhyay**, who had strong beliefs in the Jan Sangh party's ideology.
- Supporters of Hindutva and Hindu nationalism consider Mughals as villains in India's history
- They believe that **only Hindus should define Indian identity, not Muslims.**
- This idea suggests that Hindus and Muslims can't peacefully coexist unless Muslims adopt a Hindu nationalistic identity.
- To promote this, they want to erase Mughal history, even though Mughals played a role in shaping India and its diverse population.
- Lots of important people in politics say that the Mughal rulers were bad guys, and this idea is also shown in movies.
- People are also working to **remove old Mughal mosques** in places like Ayodhya, Mathura, and Varanasi.
- Sometimes, people change the stories about these old things to fit different ideas about history, like trying to say the Taj Mahal is actually a Hindu temple called Tejo Mahalay.
- Over time, there has been a deliberate **effort to remove or change information about the Mughal period in India**, not only from public places and monuments but also from school textbooks.
- Last year, the organization responsible for making school textbooks in India **decided to take out parts about the Mughal rulers.**
- This happened in Rajasthan too, where the education board and university changed their history books to say that a Rajput hero won a battle instead of a Mughal ruler
- This is causing concerns among historians who believe that changing facts doesn't change what really happened in history.