



**THE MUGHAL
EMPIRE
1526-1707**



MUGHAL EMPIRE

CLASSIC PERIOD

Babur

30 April 1526 – 26 December 1530

Humayun

26 December 1530 – 17 May 1540 and 22
February 1555 - 27 January 1556

Akbar

27 January 1556 – 27 October 1605

Jahangir

15 October 1605 – 8 November 1627

Shah Jahan

8 November 1627 – 2 August 1658

Aurangzeb

31 July 1658 – 3 March 1707





BABUR

- The Mughal Empire was founded by Babur
- Zahir-ud-din Muhammad Babur was born on 14 February 1483; sometimes also spelt Baber or Babar)
- He founded the Mughal Empire after his victories at the Battle of Panipat (1526) and the Battle of Khanwa.
- He was a direct descendant of Timur, from the Barlas clan, through his father, and also a descendant of Genghis Khan through his mother.
- Ousted from his ancestral domains in Central Asia, Babur turned to India to satisfy his ambitions.
- After Babur fell seriously ill, Humayun, his eldest son, was summoned from his Jagir. He died at the age of 47 on 26 December 1530, and was succeeded by Humayun.





A portrait of Babur, from an early illustrated manuscript of the Baburnama 1589-90



The First Battle of Panipat, on 21 April 1526, was fought between the invading forces of Babur and the Lodi Empire





The Battle of Khanwa was fought near the village of Khanwa, about 60 km west of Agra, on March 17, 1527. It was the second major battle fought in modern day India, by the first Mughal Emperor Babur after the Battle of Panipat.

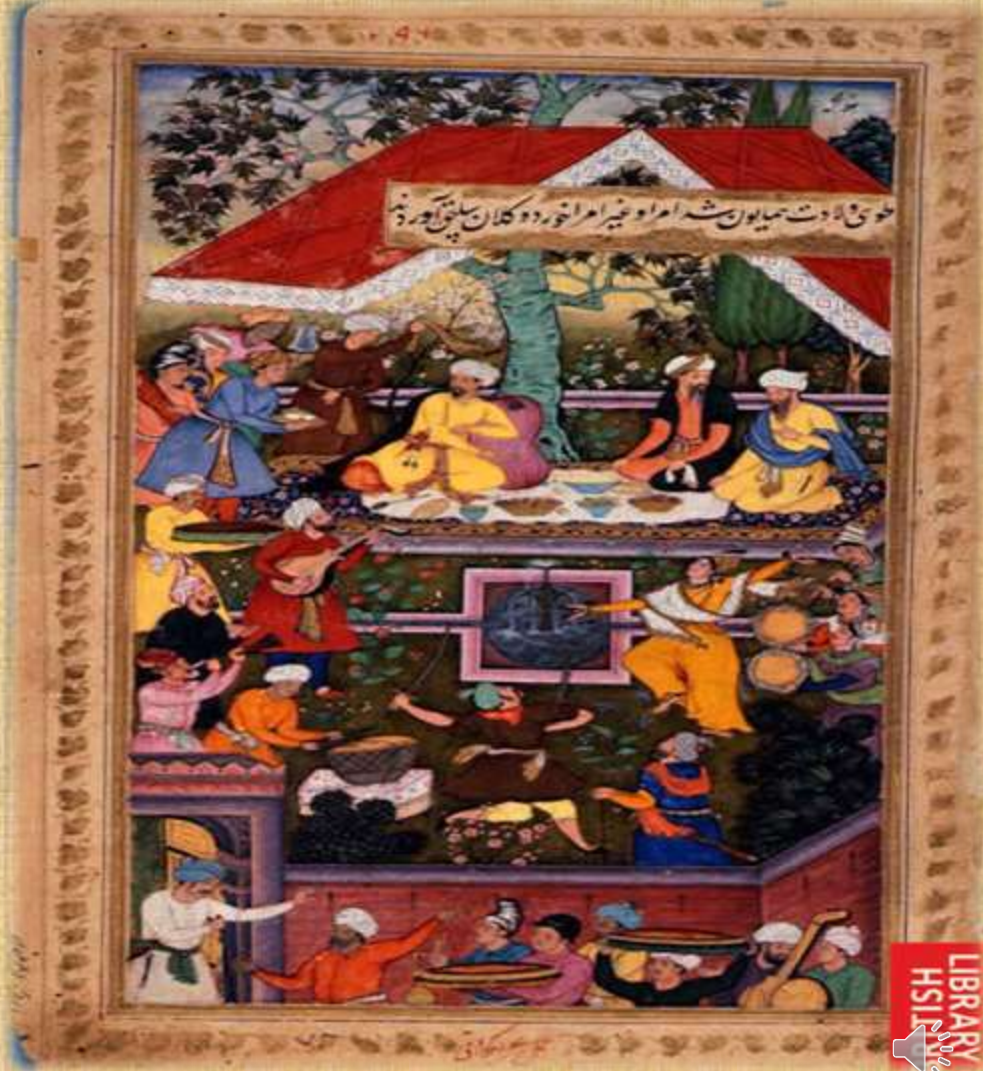


Mughals armed with Matchlocks

HUMAYUN



Nasir ud-din Muhammad Humayun was born on 17 March 1508 in Kabul, Afghanistan



Babur celebrates the birth of Humayun in the Chahar Bagh of Kabul



Humayun with his father Babur

Humayun succeeded his father in 1531, as ruler of the Mughal territories in India. At the age of 23 Humayun was an inexperienced ruler when he came to power.



Humayun is reunited with Akbar

Sher Shah Suri defeated Humayun at Chausa in 1539 and at Kannauj in 1540, expelling him from India. While wandering from one place to the other, his son Akbar was born at Umrakote on October 14, 1542.



Humayun's Tomb in Delhi, India.

- Humayun conquered the Punjab, Delhi, and Agra, and reoccupied the throne of Delhi after an interval of 15 years.
- Humayun slipped and fell down the stairs and fractured his skull. His was then carried to the palace. He died on January 26, 1556.

AKBAR



- Abu'l-Fath Jalal ud-din Muhammad Akbar, popularly known as Akbar, literally "the great".
- He was born on 14 October 1542 also known as Akbar the Great or Akbar.
- He was Mughal Emperor from 1556 until his death. He was the third and one of the greatest rulers of the Mughal Dynasty in India.
- In 1556, Humayan died just months after retaking Delhi. Akbar ascended the Mughal throne at the age of 13, and became Shahanshah ("King of Kings"). His regent was Bayram Khan, his childhood guardian and an outstanding warrior/statesman.





The Mughal Emperor Akbar shoots the Rajput warrior Jaimal during the Siege of Chittorgarh in 1567





Akbar died in 1605. Some sources say Akbar became fatally ill with dysentery, while others cite a possible poisoning, likely traced to Akbar's son Jahangir. Many favoured Jahangir's eldest son, Khusrau, to succeed Akbar as emperor, but Jahangir forcefully ascended days after Akbar's death.



Many architectural masterpieces were built at his time. Agra Fort (1565), Lahore Palace (1572), Fatehpur Sikri, Buland Darwaza and Allahabad fort (1583) were built during his time.



JAHANGIR



- Nur-ud-din Mohammad Salim, known by his imperial name Jahangir was born on 30 August 1569, was the fourth Mughal Emperor who ruled from 1605 until his death in 1627.
- Jahangir was the eldest surviving son of Mughal Emperor Akbar and was declared successor to his father from an early age.
- Jahangir was married to "Shah Begam," a princess from Amber, who killed herself in 1605 out of shame at the rebellion of her son, Prince Khusrau.





Celebrations at the accession of Jahangir in 1600, when Akbar was away from the capital on an expedition, Salim broke into an open rebellion, and declared himself Emperor. Akbar had to hastily return to Agra and restore order. There was a time when Akbar thought of putting his eldest grandson Khusrau Mirza on the throne instead of Salim.

Jahangir openly rebelled against his father at first, but was eventually reconciled; and on Akbar's death in November 1605, he assumed the throne.





Nur Jahan

- Mehr-Un-Nisa, or Nur Jahan, occupies an important place in the history of Jahangir. She was the widow of a rebel officer, Sher Afgan, of Mughals
- She was beautiful and strong woman, she soon became Jahangir's favourite queen and assumed the title of Nur Jahan, 'Light of the World'.
- Nur Jahan herself came to exercise considerable influence over her husband, and Jahangir is said to have relied heavily on her advice.



SHAH JAHAN



- Shahabuddin Muhammad Shah Jahan, Shah Jahan was born on 5 January 1594. He was the fifth Mughal Emperor of India. He is also known as Shah Jahan I.
- Shah Jahan assumed the Mughal throne on 24 January 1628 in Agra, a few days after the death of Jahangir.
- Shah Jahan has left behind an extraordinary architectural legacy. It was at his command that the Taj Mahal was built in Agra in memory of his favourite wife, Mumtaz Mahal.





Taj Mahal



Tomb of Mumtaz-Mahal & Shah Jahan

Aurangzeb eventually triumphed in the succession struggle by methodically eliminating his brothers. Aurangzeb captured Shah Jahan on 8 June 1658, and had him jailed at the Agra Fort, from where the old emperor could look wistfully at the glorious Taj. Shah Jahan died in captivity on 22 January 1666 (aged 72).

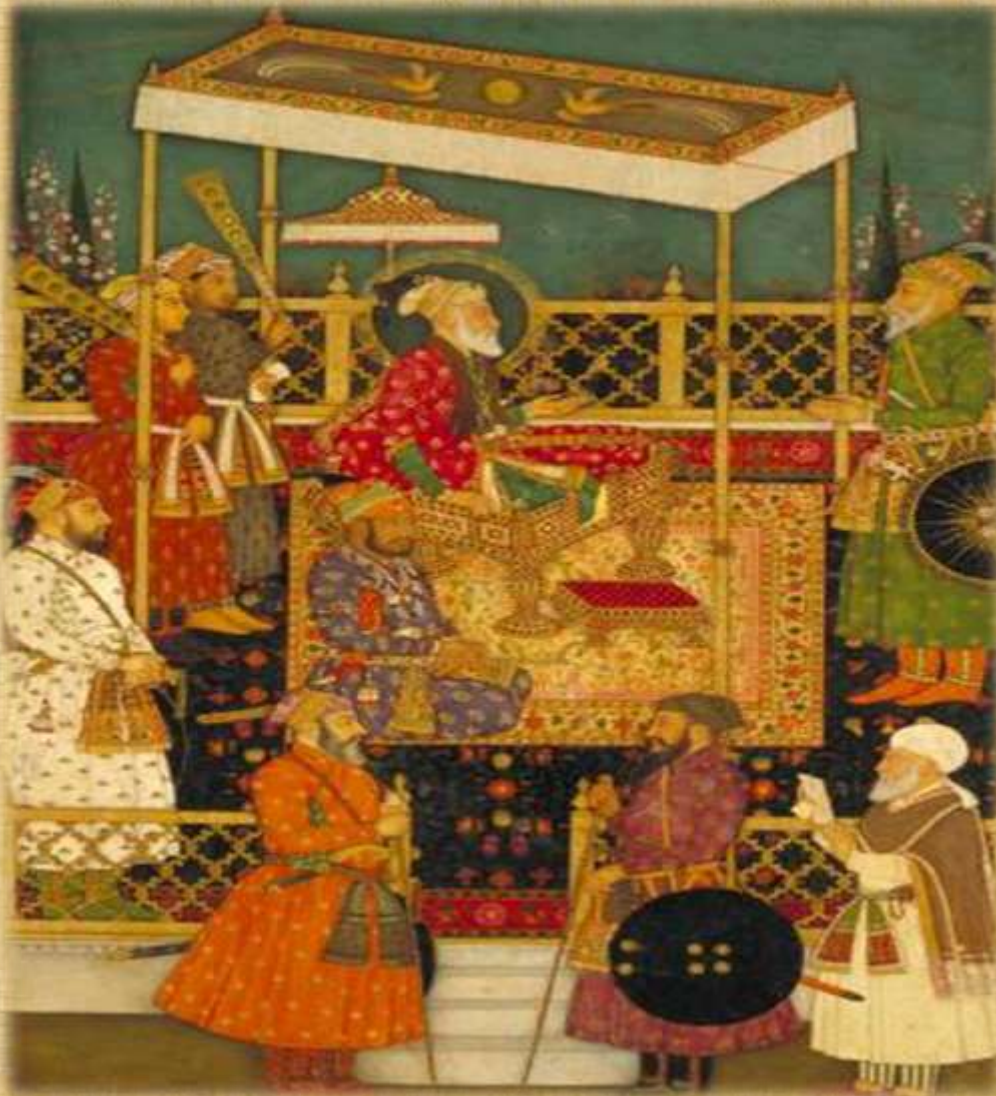


AURANGZEB



- Aurangzeb, Emperor Shah Jahan's sixth son, was born on 24th October 1618 at Dohad in Madhya Pradesh, and wrested India's crown from his father before the end of June 1658, after defeating his brother Prince Dara Shukoh's armies
- Dara Shikoh (1615-58), the eldest son of Shah Jahan, was resident at Shah Jahan's court as the designated heir; Shuja was Governor of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa; Aurangzeb governed the Deccan; and Murad was Governor of Gujarat and Malwa.
- Aurangzeb took his own father prisoner. Shuja's army was routed in battle; and Murad was lured into a false agreement and taken prisoner. Dara eventually collected together another force, suffered defeat as before, and once again he fled; but soon he was betrayed by one of his allies, and handed over to his brother.





Aurangzeb seated on the Peacock Throne.



A painting from circa 1637 shows the brothers (left to right) Shah Shuja, Aurangzeb and Murad Baksh in their younger years.



BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR II



- Mirza Abu Zafar Sirajuddin Muhammad Bahadur Shah Zafar also known as Bahadur Shah Zafar was born on October 24, 1775, Delhi.
- Bahabur Shah Zafar was the last Mughal emperor and a member of the Timurid dynasty. He was the son of Akbar II and Lal Bai, a Hindu Rajput. He became the Mughal emperor when his father died on 28 September 1837.
- Following his involvement in the Indian Rebellion of 1857, the British tried and then exiled him from Delhi and sent him to Rangoon in British-controlled Burma.
- He died on November 7, 1862 A.D Rangoon, British India (now in Burma)

