

## Mughal Empire

### The significance of Mughal rule

The Mughal Empire at its zenith commanded resources unprecedented in Indian history and covered almost the entire subcontinent. From 1556 to 1707, during the heyday of its fabulous wealth and glory, the Mughal Empire was a fairly efficient and centralized organization, with a vast complex of personnel, money, and information dedicated to the service of the emperor and his nobility.

### The establishment of the Mughal Empire

#### Babur

The foundation of the empire was laid in 1526 by Ẓahīr al-Dīn Muḥammad Babur, a Chagatai Turk (so called because his ancestral homeland, the country north of the Amu Darya [Oxus River] in Central Asia, was the heritage of Chagatai, the second son of Genghis Khan). Bābur was a fifth-generation descendant of Timur on the side of his father and a 14th-generation descendant of Genghis Khan. His idea of conquering India was inspired, to begin with, by the story of the exploits of Timur, who had invaded the subcontinent in 1398.

### The establishment of the Mughal Empire

#### Babur

The foundation of the empire was laid in 1526 by Ẓahīr al-Dīn Muḥammad [Babur](#), a Chagatai Turk (so called because his ancestral homeland, the country north of the [Amu Darya](#) [Oxus River] in [Central Asia](#), was the heritage of Chagatai, the second son of [Genghis Khan](#)). Bābur was a fifth-generation descendant of [Timur](#) on the side of his father and a 14th-generation descendant of Genghis Khan. His idea of conquering India was inspired, to begin with, by the story of the exploits of Timur, who had invaded the subcontinent in 1398.