**INDIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE**

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**REPORT DOCUMENT – REVIEW 2**



**TOPIC: BRITISH RULE VS MUGHAL RULE IN INDIA**

**SUBMITTED TO:**

**Dr. SWATI SHARMA**

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

**SSL**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**PATRICK RAJA S – 20BCE1058**

**SHASHVATH R – 20BCE1081**

**SRI PRIYADHARSAN K – 20BCE1255**

**SHRI VARSHAN P – 20BCE1563**

**SANJIL K C – 20BCE1855**

1. **IMPACT ON ECONOMY:**

**MUGHAL EMPIRE:**

From 16th century to 18th century, the Mughal kingdom was the richest and most powerful kingdom within the world. This is hardly stunning considering that Sher Shah of Iran and therefore the Mughals targeted on developing roads, watercourse transport, sea routes, ports and removing several landlocked tolls and taxes. Indian handicrafts were developed. There was huge export change factory-made merchandise like textile, spices, indigo, woollen and silk artifact, salt etc. The Mughals welcome the foreign merchant, provided protection and security for his transactions. what is more, the growth of native handicrafts and trade resulted during a reservoir of exportable merchandise. Indian exports consisted in the main of factory-made articles, with textile in nice demand in Europe et al. Indigo, spices, opium, sugar, woollen and silk artifact of varied types were additionally exported.

Apart from silk and cotton textiles, other industries were shawl and carpet weaving, woollen good and articles made of wood. A very economical system of administration came upon by Akbar helped atmosphere of trade and commerce. It was this which led the East India Company to look for trade concessions from the Mughal empire and eventually control then destroy it. The emergence of the famous drain of wealth from India started with the East India Company not the Mughals.

**BRITISH EMPIRE:**

The British Company were keen on having a lot of raw materials from India also as causing their finished things back to India. There was currently a reversal direction of the textile trade between the United Kingdom and India. There was an excessive import of machine-created garments from English factories to Indian markets. This import of huge quantities of products factory-made by mechanical looms in England display a threat to the handicraft industries because the British merchandise was oversubscribed at a far cheaper worth. British people succeeded in exporting their products at an inexpensive worth as foreign products were barrier-free in India while not paying any duty. On the opposite hand, Indian handicrafts were taxed heavily once they were sent out of the country. Besides, below the excessive pressure of its industrialists, the British government usually obligatory duty on Indian textiles.

As a result, India went from being a clothing exporter to a raw cotton exporter and a British clothing importer in a matter of years. The British's major goal was to convert India into a consumer of British products. As a result, the textile, metalworking, glass, and paper industries were quickly rendered obsolete. They robbed Indian princes, merchants, zamindars, and even simple people of their money. The British carried out several land revenues experiments which caused hardship to farmers. The British invested heavily in infrastructures such as railways, telegraphy, roads, and ports. British investors built a modern railway system in the late 19th century and it became the fourth largest in the world and was famous for its quality of construction and service.

1. **IMPACT ON ARCHITECTURE:**

**MUGHAL EMPIRE:**

Mughal architecture is a construction style that thrived in northern and central India from the mid-16th to late-17th centuries under the patronage of Mughal monarchs. In northern India, the Mughal period saw a remarkable rebirth of Islamic architecture. Persian, Indian, and diverse regional styles were combined under the patronage of the Mughal emperors to produce works of exceptional beauty and finesse.

Under Emperor Akbar's reign, Agra and the new capital city of Fatehpur Sikri, which was constructed in 1569, experienced a boom in construction. The Great Mosque (Jami Masjid), constructions of the massive fort of Agra (1565–74), and the mausoleum of Akbar at Sikandar, near Agra. The majority of these early Mughal structures rely on post-and-lintel construction rather than arches. Red sandstone or white marble is used to construct them.

During the reign of Shah Jahan (1628–58), Mughal architecture reached its pinnacle, with the beautiful Taj Mahal as its crowning achievement. The usage of a double dome, a recessed archway inside a rectangular fronton, and parklike environs are all hallmarks of Shah Jahan's reign. The palace fortress at Delhi, begun in 1638, was Shah Jahan's second major project after the Taj Mahal. The red-sandstone-pillared Diwan-i-Am and the so-called Diwan-i-Khas, which housed the famed Peacock Throne, are two of the city's most noteworthy structures.

**BRITISH EMPIRE:**

The churches bear one of the early architectural effects of the British colonial administration. The Gothic and neo-classical styles were popular at the time, and many of the buildings in the Presidency of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay became symbols of the luxurious architectural style. The Gothic style of colonial architecture may be seen in places like St. John's Church, Fort William, Kolkata's Calcutta Cathedral, and Kanpur's Mutiny Memorial Church.

Since the mid-nineteenth century, there has been a construction boom that has resulted in the creation of several monuments, railway stations, rest houses, government buildings, and other structures. Many important structures were created during the late nineteenth century, including the Rajabai Clock Tower, Victoria Terminus, Bombay High Court, and the majestic Victoria Memorial in Kolkata. Indo-Saracenic architecture, on the other hand, made its mark on colonial architectural history in the late nineteenth century. In many aspects, Indo-Saracenic architecture was a revival style that combined British features as well as Mughal and Hindu temple construction.

British architects who worked throughout the empire shared a set of views that were significantly different from those of their peers at home. Their ideas came together to develop the colonial style, which was more or less afflicted with the desire to make Britain's imperial role as ruler obvious. Because the British thought process was built on the idea that "to know was, in some degree, already to govern," imperial architecture was referred to as "architecture both of knowledge and of power."

1. **IMPACT ON SOCIETY AND CULTURE:**

**MUGHAL EMPIRE:**

Mughal rulers like Babur, Humayun, Akbar, and Jahangir were known to spread cultural development in our country. Most works in these fields were done during the Mughal rule. Mughal rulers were keen on culture; therefore, all were in the support of spreading education. The Mughal traditions highly influenced the palaces and forts of the many regional and native kingdoms.

The Mughal rulers want to patronize education and plenty of educational institutions were established in India though they had been merely confined to the royal court the kids of the center class were also ready to acquire knowledge. the academic institutes were also ready to educate the women of royal families and therefore the bourgeoisie.

As Hindus were in a heavy majority that traditions like satti and jouhar were hip. The culture of kid marriage, dowry, and prohibition of the second marriage was so strong that even the Muslims living in India were influenced by these trends. Jala-ud-din Akbar did make a shot to bring social reforms within the society by synthesizing kickshaws of all existing religions of that point but the masses were reluctant to follow this reform better referred to as din-i-illahi.

Within the reign of Akbar, many works were being exhausted in the Persian language like Ain-i-Akbari, etc. the Persian literature after Akbar continued under Jahangir. Hindi poetry also flourished during the Mughal rule during the reign of Jahangir and Shah Jehan. However, it had been discouraged extremely within the rule of Aurangzeb. Music being an important feature of the faith of Hindus was given plenty of patronage by the Mughal rulers.

**BRITISH EMPIRE:**

Indian society underwent many changes after the British came to India. within the 19th century, certain social practices like female infanticide, child marriage, sati, polygamy, and a rigid class structure became more prevalent. These practices were against human dignity and values. Women were discriminated against in any respect stages of life and were the disadvantaged section of society. They didn't have access to any development opportunities to boost their status.

When the nation came to India, they brought new ideas like liberty, equality, freedom, and human rights from the Renaissance, the Reformation Movement, and therefore the various revolutions that materialized in Europe. These ideas appealed to some sections of our society and led to many reform movements in numerous parts of the country.

Many legal measures were introduced to enhance the status of ladies. for instance, the practice of sati was banned in 1829 by Lord Bentinck, the then-governor. Widow Remarriage was permitted by a law passed in 1856. A law passed in 1872, sanctioned inter-caste and inter-communal marriages. Sharda Act was passed in 1929 to prevent child marriage. The act only if it had been illegal to marry a woman below 14 and a boy below 18 years. All the movements severely criticized the class structure and particularly the practice of untouchability.

1. **IMPACT ON LITERATURE:**

**MUGHAL EMPIRE:**

Mughals made a great impact during the time of their rule. Notable rulers like Babar, Akbar, and Humayun were lovers of learning and contributed as much during the time of their rule. The Mughal period was like the golden age of literature. Forced by the unquenchable need to learn, Akbar became responsible for much of the growth of literature during his reign. Abu'l-Fazl ibn Mubarak, also known as Abul Fazl made astounding works like The Akbarnama, Ruq`uat, and Inshā-i-Abu'l Fazl, are works regarded by other scholars that are with extraordinary composition. Akbar made a point to make Persian literature from Sanskrit to make a common ground with the Muslims and Hindus.

Under the Mughal Empire, classical Persian was adopted as a court language. This allowed for more literary diversity because while Persian was used as a literary language, people would also write in their languages. The Mughal empire left literature in the native languages that they had been written in. Educated Indians who served the Mughal Empire's courts as poets, scholars, and secretaries were deeply influenced by Persian literature.

It created an environment where Indians could create new languages, such as Urdu and Hindi, and new forms of writing, such as the ghazal. Persian became the language of India for a few centuries. This allowed for an influx of Persian ideas, customs, and literary works to take root in India. The Mughals were open to all cultures and accepted Indian literature as well as artists from all over Asia and Europe.

**BRITISH EMPIRE:**

The British authors like Sir Henry Cunningham and Philip Robinson wrote about India in their country in the form of stories and novels in the 1870’s and Rudyard Kipling’s Plain tales from the hills in 1888 during the time of British Raj. Though Kipling has made scornful comments against the British Raj, many British like George Orwell and even writers in the time of 1970’s acknowledges his works till now. The British introduced English literature, which was modelled after European styles that did not reflect the diverse people in India.

The British empire influenced literature with their vernacular and languages. British literature has a more objective, straight-forward style compared to that of Mughal. British writers preferred step-by-step development of the plot, while Mughal writers liked to use allegorical rather than representational imagery. The British Empire had a major impact on the literature of the Indian subcontinent.

During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, novelists from newly colonized India wrote in English about colonialism with themes including freedom, loss of identity, and loneliness. They also wrote about society and literary heritage. For example, Rabindranath Tagore's work explored Bengali culture and its connection to Hinduism. The British Raj contributed to Indian English literature mainly through their post offices and railways. The British colonial rule in India was not as kind to Indian literature. British did not encourage literary production in native languages, but instead encouraged the learning of English.

**IMPACT ON COINAGE:**

**MUGHAL EMPIRE:**

The Mughals' coinage may be divided into different phases,

* The **wandering or regional phase**, which lasted from 1526 to 1556 and featured emperors Babur and Humayun.
* The **classical period,** which lasted from 1556 to 1707 and featured leaders such as Akbar, Jahangir, Shah Jahan, and Aurangzeb.

The Mohur, weighing around 170 to 175 grains, was the Mughals' standard gold currency. In his 'Ain-i-Akbari,' Abul Fazl stated that a Mohur was worth nine rupees. There are also half and quarter mohurs. The most famous of all Mughal currencies was the silver rupee, which was an adaptation of Sher Shah's coins. Sher Shah's dam became the basis for the Mughal copper currency, which weighed 320 to 330 grains.

**BRITISH EMPIRE:**

Uniform coinage was introduced in India by the British in 1835, with coins in the name of the East India Company, bearing the image of William IIII. In 1840, these were replaced by coins with an image of Queen Victoria, but the design otherwise remained the same. The next set of coins was minted in 1862 and had significant changes - East India Company was replaced by 'India'. The image of Queen Victoria was also changed, shown in a regal robe with a crown. In 1877, Victoria was declared the Empress of India - and her title on Indian coins changed as a result. This last design continued till 1938, with only the image of the ruler changing. Over this entire period, the weight of the Indian rupee and its purity remained constant at 11.66 grams and 91.7% respectively.

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