

MEDIEVAL INDIA

The Mughal Empire

Rulers, art and administration (1526–1857)

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Student Name

CLASS
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SUBJECT
History



CONTENTS

Agenda

01

Introduction

03

Events

02

Background

04

Impact

01

INTRODUCTION



For three centuries the Mughals
shaped India's art, food and
architecture.

Why it matters

Overview

- ▶ Founded by Babur after the First Battle of Panipat
- ▶ Height under Akbar, Jahangir and Shah Jahan
- ▶ Strong administration and grand monuments
- ▶ Declined after the 18th century

REMEMBER

Akbar's mansabdari system organised nobles by rank.

02

BACKGROUND

TIMELINE

Key dates

1526

Panipat

Babur founds the empire

1632–1653

Taj Mahal

Built under Shah Jahan

1556–1605

Akbar

Expansion and reform

1857

End

Last emperor exiled

SETTING

The empire at its height



Map / illustration

From Kabul to Bengal and the Deccan.

Capitals moved between Agra, Fatehpur Sikri, Lahore and Delhi. Roads and sarais linked the provinces.

Causes and conditions

01

Military strength

Cavalry and gunpowder.

02

Administration

Provinces, revenue and ranks.

03

Alliances

Treaties with local rulers.

03

EVENTS

PEOPLE

Who was involved



Photo

Babur
FOUNDER

First emperor, wrote the Baburnama.



Photo

Akbar
REFORMER

Known for policies of tolerance.



Photo

Shah Jahan
BUILDER

Commissioned the Taj Mahal.

How the empire was run



Emperor

Supreme authority



Subas

Provinces under
governors



Mansabdars

Ranked officers



Revenue

Land tax system

“

*Mughal art blended Persian, Central Asian and
Indian traditions into something new.*

A COMMON SUMMARY BY HISTORIANS

SUMMARY TABLE

At a glance

Ruler	Reign	Known for
Babur	1526–1530	Founding
Akbar	1556–1605	Administration
Shah Jahan	1628–1658	Architecture

Dates are approximate where historians differ.

04

IMPACT

Before and after

Before

- ✓ Many small kingdoms
- ✓ Varied tax systems
- ✓ Regional styles

After

- Unified administration
- Standard revenue system
- Indo-Islamic architecture

Legacy

01

Architecture

Taj Mahal, Red Fort, gardens.

02

Cuisine

Biryani, kebabs, kormas.

03

Language

Growth of Urdu.

THINK

Discussion questions

- ▶ What made Akbar's rule distinctive?
- ▶ Why did the empire decline?
- ▶ How do Mughal buildings mix cultures?
- ▶ Which legacy do you see today?



History lives on

Thank you for listening.

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