

Mughal Empire

Zahir-ud-din Muhammad Babur (1526-1530)

The foundation of the empire was laid in 1526 by Zahir-ud-din Muhammad **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). Babur took birth on **14th February, 1483** in **Fergana** of Transoxiana to the emperor of Fergana **Umar Shaikh Mirza & Qutlugh Nigar Khanum**. Babur was a fifth-generation descendant of Timur on the side of his father and a 14th-generation descendant of Genghis Khan. Babur inherited his father's principality in Fergana at a young age of 11 years, in 1494. He captured Kabul in 1504. He, then, gave up the title of his ancestral title 'Mirza' & assumed the title of '**Badshah**'.

He learnt the **Tulughma system of warfare from Uzbeks**, use of guns from Iranians, horse-riding from the Turks of his clan & use of artillery from Turks of Constantinople. He appointed **Ustad Ali Quli** as the head of artillery. He received the service of the artillery specialist **Mustufa Kha** in India. During Babur's invasion, there were various independent states in India, but Babur mentioned only 5 Muslim states, namely, Bengal, Delhi, Malwa, Gujarat & Bahamani & 2 Hindu states Mewad & Vijaynagar in Baburnama.

Babur invaded India for 4 times between 1519 & 1524. His first attack was on **Bajaur**. It was during the Bajaur attack, **cannons** were used for the first time in India to invade the **Bhera fort**. The battle of Panipat between Babur & Ibrahim Lodi in 1526 was Babur's fifth invasion. **Daulat Kha Lodi** (Subedar of Lahore, Punjab) & **Aalam Kha Lodi** (uncle of Ibrahim Lodi) invited Babur to India. In Baburnama, Babur mentioned the invasion of India on invitation by **Rana Sanga**. Babur's knowledge of western and Central Asian war tactics and his brilliant leadership proved decisive in his victory. He followed the Tulughma style of warfare & Usmani style of artillery in this battle.

Tulughma style of warfare - Tulghuma meant dividing the whole army into various units, viz. the Left, the Right and the Centre. The Left and Right divisions were further subdivided into Forward and Rear divisions. Through this a small army could be used to surround the enemy from all the sides. The Centre Forward division was then provided with carts (**araba**) which were placed in rows facing the enemy and tied to each other with animal hide ropes. Behind them were placed cannons protected and supported by mantlets which could be used to easily maneuver the cannons. These two tactics (tulughma & araba) made Babur's artillery lethal. The cannons could be fired without any fear of being hit, as they were shielded by the bullock carts held in place by hide ropes.

Vikramaditya, the ruler of Gwalior, died in the battle of Panipat while fighting from Ibrahim Lodi's side. Babur donated one silver coin to each residents of Kabul after his victory. Due to his generosity, he is also called **Qalandar**. On 17th March, 1527, he defeated **Rana Sanga** in the battle of **Khanwa** (near bharatpur), 40 kms away from Agra. Though Rana Sanga's army was double in number than Babur's. Babur raised the slogan of **Jihad** to encourage the soldiers of his army. He abolished the stamp duty called **Tamga** which was levied on Muslims & promised for no alcohol consumption & broke all the alcohol cans in front of the soldiers. After being victorious in the battle of Khanwa, Babur assumed the title of **Gazi**. Babur defeated **Medinirai** in the **Battle of Chanderi** (28th January, 1528). After his victory in the Battle of Chanderi, he built tower of Rajputs' skulls. Babur defeated the Lohani Afghan Army of Bengal & Bihar led by Mahmud Lodi in the **Battle of Ghaghra** on 6th May, 1529. It was the last battle fought by Babur.

On 26th December 1530, Babur died in Agra. He was first buried at **Noor-i-Afghan** (Aarambaag) garden in Agra. Later he was buried in Kabul at his desired place. According to Gulbadan Begum, Ibrahim Lodi's mother gave poison to Babur. **Gulbadan Begum** was Babur's daughter. She wrote '**Humayunama**'. Babur, in his autobiography **Tujuk-i-Baburi (Baburnama)**, which was written in Turkish, described the contemporary India. He also compiled poems under the title **Diwan**. Babur is considered as the father of a special verses style of Persian language **Mubaiyan**. Mubaiyan is the book on Islamic laws. He also wrote poems in Persian. He was a disciple of Khwaja Ubedullah Ahrar of **Nakshbandi Order**. He wrote **Risaal-i-USaj**, also called **Khat-i-Baburi** in a new style. He built the **Sambhal Mosque** in Panipat. The Noor-i-Afghan Garden or the Aarambag was also built by him.

Nasiruddin Humayun (1530-1556)

Humayun was Babur's eldest son. He was born in 1508 at Kabul to Babur & his 3rd wife **Maham Begum**. His younger brothers were Qamaran & Askari (Gulrukh Begum) & the youngest one was Hindal (Dildar Begum). Initially, Babur's minister **Nizam-ud-din Ali Khalifa** wanted **Mehndi Khwaja** (Babur's brother-in-law) to ascend the throne but later on declared Humayun as the 2nd emperor of the Mughal Empire. Humayun ascended the throne on 30th December 1530. He divided the empire among his brothers according to the will of his father. He was the only Mughal emperor to do so. The division of Mughal Empire was the biggest reason of the failure of Humayun as the Emperor. 2nd reason was his character. As the result of the division of the Empire, Qamaran received Kabul & Kandhar; Askari got Sambhal & Hindal got the Jagirs of Mewat.

When **Bahadur Shah**, the ruler of Gujarat, sieged the Chittorhgarh fort in 1534-35, **Rani Karnavati** sent rakhi to Humayun seeking his help, but Humayun turned down the request. Humayun defeated Afghans led by Mahmud Lodi in the **Battle of Deorah** in August 1532. Later, while returning from Bengal, Humayun was defeated by **Sher Khan** at **Chausa** (near Buxar) on 25th June 1539. After the Victory, Sher Khan assumed the title of **Sher Shah**. The biggest reasons of his defeat were his unorganized army & non-assistance from his brothers. Humayun saved his life with the help of a waterman Nizam & reached Agra. As a reward, Humayun declared him the Mughal Emperor for one day. **Sher Shah** finally defeated Humayun in the **Battle of Bilgram (Kannauj)** on 17th May 1540. After the battle of Bilgram, the Afghans ruled India. After the defeat, Humayun ran to Persia (Iran) in 1544 & was sheltered under **Shah Tahmasp**.

In 1541, Maldeo requested Humayun to help him against Sher Shah Suri but Humayun didn't reply on time. During his deportation, he married to **Hamida Begum**, who was the daughter of Hindal's spiritual teacher, Shia Meer Baba Dost (Mir Ali Akbar Jami) of Persia. Hamida Begum is also known by the name **Marium Maqani**. Akbar was the son of Humayun & Hamida Begum. He took birth on 15th October 1542 in the fort of Rana Veersal of Amarkot.

Regaining the Indian Empire –

after the death of Sher Shah Suri, the Sur empire disintegrated & weakened. Humayun took advantage of this & defeated Afghans in the **Battle of Machhiwara** (15th May 1555) near Ludhiana, Punjab & captured the whole Punjab. On 22nd June 1555, the Mughal army led by **Bairam Khan** defeated the Sur King **Sikandar Shah** at **Sarhind**. The victory of Sarhind resulted in re-gaining of the lost Indian Empire of the Mughals. On 23rd July, 1555, Humayun ascended the throne of Delhi again. But before he could have enjoyed his victory, he died after tumbling from the stair cases of the library of Din Panah building on 24th January 1556. **Lanepool** wrote, '**He tumbled throughout his life & tumbled out of it**'. Humayun built a fort called Dinpanah. Humayun strongly believed on astrology hence he used to wear clothes of different colours throughout the week. He was also fond of opium.

Humayun's Tomb -

It was built in Agra during Akbar's reign. It is the first structure of Akbar's reign. It was constructed by **Hazi Begum or Bega Begum** (mother of Akbar) under the Persian architecture **Mirak Mirza Ghayas**. The Humayun's tomb is considered as the forerunner of Taj Mahal but it did not contain independent pillars as present in Taj Mahal. Other members of Mughal dynasty were also buried in the Humayun's tomb, namely, Bega Begum, Hamida Banu Begum, Dara Shikoh, Jahandar Shah, Farrukhsiyar, Rafi-ud-darjat, Rafi-ud-Daula & Alamgir II.

Shershah Suri (1540-1545)

Shershah took birth in 1472 at Bajwada (Hoshiarpur, Punjab). He was known as **Farid** in his childhood. His father **Hasan Khan** was a jagirdar of **Jaunpur**. Once he went on hunt with his master & killed a lion therefore his master **Bahar Kha Lohani** (Subedar of Southern Bihar) assigned the title of **Sher Khan** to Farid. Shershah took part in the battle of Ghaghra from Mahmud Lodi's side. He defeated Nusrat Shah of Bengal in 1529 & assumed the title of **Hazrat-i-Aala**. He took part in the battle of Chanderi from Mughals' side. He captured the fort of Chunargarh in 1530 after marrying Lad Malika, the widow of Taj Khan, the ruler of Chunargarh. He helped Mahmud Lodi in battle of Deorah against Humayun. He defeated Mahmud Shah, the ruler of Bengal in the battle of Surajgarh (1534) & compelled him to pay 13 lakh dinars. **Teliagarhi**, situated near Saahabganj in Bengal, was called as the key to Bengal. Shershah established the second Afghan Empire in the Northern India in 1540 after being victorious in the battle of Chausa (1539) & Bilgram (1540).

State	Year	Ruler
Malwa	1542	Mallu Khan (Qadir Khan)
Raiseen	1543	Puranmal
Marwad	1544	Maldev
Kalinjar	1545	Keerat Singh

In Raiseen, Shershah killed Puranmal & many Rajput women & children. It is considered as a slur on his character. The Rajput army led by Jayata & Kumpa gave strong competition to Shershah Suri army in the battle of **Giri-Sumel (Jaitaran Pali)** fought between Shershah Suri & Maldev of Marwad in 1544. The Rajput army made it tough for Sher Shah to win the battle but sher shah won through diplomacy. He died after explosion in the gunpowder while launching **Ukka**, a missile during the Kalinjar attack in 1545. Shershah Suri & his son Islam Shah assumed the title of Caliph but never accepted the legality from the Caliph.

Successors of Shershah Suri

Islam Shah (1545-1553) – younger son of Shershah Julal Khan ascended the throne. After his death, his minor son **Firoz shah** (12 years) ascended the throne. But his maternal uncle Mubariz Khan murdered him & ascended the throne with name **Muhammad Aadil Shah**. He appointed **Hemu**, a salt seller, as his Wazir. Aadil Shah was versed in dancing & other forms of music. During his reign, the Afghan Empire divided into 4 parts.

Punjab	Sikandar Shah
Delhi & Agra	Ibrahim Shah
Agra to Bihar	Aadil Shah
Bengal	Muhammad Shah

Taking advantage of the hatred among the Afghan ruler, Humayun defeated Sikandarshah Suri in the battle of Machchiwara & Sarhind & re-established the Mughal Empire in 1555.

Shershah's Administration

As an Emperor & administrator, Shershah Suri is considered as the forerunner of Akbar. He did not present any new administration system rather he reformed the administrative system pertained throughout the Sultanate period.

Central Administration – He introduced centralized system of administration in which all the power lied with the King. There were 4 main departments of the Central administration –

1. **Diwan-i-Wajarat** – Finance department.
2. **Diwan-i-Aarij (military department)**– Department for management of army including food, training etc but the recruitment of soldiers was done by the commander of the army which was Shershah himself.
3. **Diwan-i-Rasalat** – Foreign department.
4. **Diwan-i-Insha** – The minister of this department was responsible for writing the official orders & declarations.

Provincial Administration – Shershah divided his Empire into 47 units or sarkars, to facilitate the administration, which were further divided into Parganas. Due to frequently occurring revolts, the province of Bengal was administered by Shiqdars appointed by the Centre. A non-military officer Amin-i-Bangla or Amir-i-Bengal was also appointed to assist & supervise Shiqdars. Except Bengal, all the Empire was divided into Iqtas. The Governor of Iqta was called Haqim Faujdar or Maumin. The Governor was responsible for maintaining peace & justice. He also had a standing army.

Administration of Sarkar (District) – Iqtas were divided into Sarkars. There were two chief officers in each Sarkar. The one **chief Shiqdar** or **Shiqdar-i-Shiqdaran** was a military officer. He maintained peace and order in the district, helped in the collection of revenue and other taxes and also supervised the work of his subordinate officers called Shiqdars.

The other officer was called the **chief Munsif** or **Munsif- i-Muinsfan**. He was primarily a judicial officer who looked after justice in the district. He also looked after the working of his subordinate judicial officers in the parganas. These two officers were helped by a number of junior officers and other subordinates in carrying out their duties.

Administration of Pargana – Each Sarkar was divided into small units called the parganas and each Pargana was further subdivided into a number of villages. There were 5 chief officers namely, a Shiqdar (military officer), a Munsif (civilian judge), Amin (revenue collector), one treasury officer & 2 clerks to work in Hindi & Persian. These officers were assisted by other staff in the discharge-of their duties.

Villages – A village was the smallest self-sufficient unit, administered by village panchayats. The village administration was run by Pradhan, Patwari & watchman.

Land-Revenue System :- Sher Shah's land revenue policy is an important landmark in the history of Indian agrarian system. After a survey of the lands (under the supervision of Ahmad Khan) according to a uniform system, Sher Shah settled the land revenue directly with the tillers of the soil and fixed the state demand at **one-third** of the gross produce payable either in cash or kind depending on the productivity of land and crop, except for **Multan**, where the revenue was fixed at **one-fourth** of the gross produce. For measurement of the land, **sikandari gaja (32 points)** was made the base. To prevent the tenants from being harassed, their rights and liabilities were clearly defined in documents known as **pattas** (title deeds) and **kabuliyats** (deed of agreement). Each peasant thus knew what he had to pay.

Sher Shah abolished the system of landlords and middlemen in his revenue administration. His revenue management is compared with the modern **Ryotwari settlement**. **Todar Mal** contributed greatly in the development of the revenue policy of Sher Shah. During the rule of Sher Shah, peasants had also to pay **jaribana** (survey charge) and **muhasilana** (tax collection charge). The rates of these charges were 2.5 per cent and 5 per cent respectively. There were three procedures of fixing the revenue –

1. **Galla Baqshi or Batai,**
2. **Nashq, Muqtai or Qanqut,**
3. **Naqdi, Zabti or Zamai.**

Sher Shah's land revenue system was scientific. This is why Akbar also adopted the same revenue policy, albeit with some amendments.

Currency :- Sher Shah's currency reform deserves high praise. There were around 23 mints during his reign. The **first Silver coin** (180 grains) was introduced by Sher Shah and was called "**Rupia**" which remained in use throughout the Mughal rule. He issued **copper coins** (360 grains) which were called **Dam, Half Dam and quarter Dam** as per the denomination. The ratio of exchange between the Dam and rupee was fixed at 64 to 1. The same coin-rupee ratio served the basis of the currency during the Mughal and British periods. Earlier there was no fixed ratio among so many coins of various metal alloys. He abolished the old and mixed metal currency. He issued fine coins of gold, silver and copper of uniform standard. His name was engraved on the coins in Deonagari & Arabian script. He was the first Emperor to use both these scripts combinedly. Some of his coins have the names of first 4 Caliphs.

Law & Judicial System :- The Sultan was the highest judicial authority in the state. Sher Shah assumed the title of **Sultan-ul-Adal**. He held his court every Wednesday in the evening. Next to him was the chief **Qazi** who was the head of the department of justice. There were subordinate Qazis in every district and in all important cities. The criminal law was severe. The offenders were punished by fines, flogging, imprisonment and even cutting of the limbs. **Munsif & Munsif-i-Munsifan** dealt with the civil cases. Shershah established **Dan-i-Langar**, which provided free food to the poor.

Military System :- Keen on increasing the efficiency of his army, Sher Shah personally supervised the recruitment of the soldiers and paid them directly. He revived Ala-ud-din Khalji's system of branding the horses (daag) and keeping a descriptive roll of soldiers (chehra).

Network of roads & Sarais :- Sher Shah constructed a network of roads connecting important parts of his empire within his capital. He repaired old roads.

Sher Shah constructed the following four highways:

- i. **Sadak-e-Azam (Grand Trunk Road)** starting from Sonargaon in Eastern Bengal passing through Agra, Delhi and Lahore and terminating at Peshawar, covering a distance of about 3,000 km;
- ii. From Agra to Jodhpur and the Chittor fort;
- iii. From Agra to Burhanpur via Mandu;
- iv. From Lahore to Multan.

About 1700 sarais were constructed on both sides of the roads. Each sarai had separate rooms for the Hindus and the Muslims. Each sarai had a well and a mosque. These sarais also served as dak Chaukis (post office). In view of the special significance of these sarais, they were called as “veritable arteries of the empire.”

Buildings

Sher Shah was also a great builder. The mausoleum which he built for himself at **Sasaram** is one of the finest in India. He also built **Fort of Rohtasgarh** on the banks of the river Jhelum in the north-west & **Purana Qila** at New Delhi. He built **Qila-i-Kuhna** Mosque in the Purana Qila in 1542.

Akbar (1542-1605)

Akbar was born on **15th October 1542** at the fort of Raja Veersal in **Amarkot**. His childhood name was **Badar-ud-din** & his full name was **Abu'l-Fath Jalal ud-din Muhammad Akbar**. He started working as the subedar of **Ghazani & Lahore** in his childhood only. At the age of 9 years, he got married to Hindal's daughter **Ruqaiya Begum**. Akbar succeeded Humayun on February 14, 1556 in **Kalanaur (Gurdaspur, Punjab)** and was proclaimed '**Shahanshah**'. Bairam Khan ruled on behalf of the young Emperor till he came of age. He ascended the throne at the age of **13 years 4 months** only. He appointed Bairam Khan as the Wazir (Wakil-ul-Sultanate) & assigned him the title of **Khan-i-Khana**. Bairam Khan defeated **Hemu**, the chief commander & the Wazir of **Aadilshah Sur**, in the **second Battle of Panipat** (5th November, 1556). Hemu declared himself as the independent ruler of Delhi & assumed the title of **Vikramaditya**. Hemu was the only Hindu ruler of Medieval India to rule over the throne of Delhi. He was also the 14th ruler to assume the title of Vikramaditya.

Bairam Khan wanted to consolidate the power into his own hands therefore the battle of Tilwara was fought between Akbar & Bairam Khan in 1560, in which Akbar defeated him. In this battle, the Akbar's army was led by Pir Mehmud. Bairam Khan appointed **Mir Abdul Latif** as Akbar's teacher. After the defeat, Bairam Khan left for Mecca, but on his way, near Patan, he was killed by an Afghan Mubarak Khan. Akbar married Bairam's widow Salima Begum. Later on, Bairam Khan's son **Abdurrehman** became one of the closest friend of Akbar & assumed the title of **Khan-i-Khana**. The period from 1560-1562 is signified as the period of **Harem Party or Petticoat Government** because of the influence of Akbar's foster mother **Maham Anaga**, his son **Adham Khan** & daughter **Jiji Anaga**. Adham Khan murdered Ataga Khan therefore as punishment Adham was thrown down twice from the roof of a one storied building whose height was about 10 feet (which was possibly the reason why he had to be thrown down twice) by royal order and put to death. The sudden demise of Adham Khan made his mother mentally depressed, and after forty days she also died. As a result, Akbar got free

from the control of the Harem Party led by his foster mother Maham Anga in 1562. He re-appointed Munim Khan to the post of Prime Minister.

List of Important works of Mughal Emperor Akbar

Work	Year
Ended Slavery	1562
Free from the control of the Harem Party led by his foster mother Maham Anaga.	1562
Annulled the Pilgrimage tax	1563
Abolished Jaziya Tax	1564
Established Fatehpur Sikri and transfer its capital from Agra to Fatehpur Sikri	1571
Branding of horse started	1575
Started Mansabdari system	1575
Founded Ibadat Khana (House of worship)	1575
Granted 500 Bigha to Guru Ramdas, later Amritsar was colonized on this land	1577
Open Ibadat Khana (House of worship) for all religion	1578
Degree of Infallibility (Mazhar Nama)	1579
Dahsala system by Todar Mal	1580
Founded Din-i-Illahi	1582
Started Illahi Era	1583
Transfer Capital to Lahore	1585

Expansion of the Mughal Empire

Qandhar annexed to the Mughal Empire for the first time in 1595 during Akbar's reign. The Qandhar victory was Akbar's biggest success in the north-west. In 1591, the ruler of Khandesh Ali Kha willingly accepted the Akbar's suzerainty. Khandesh was considered as the entry gate to Southern India. Prince Murad & Abdurrahim Khan Khana attempted to conquer Ahmednagar between 1597 & 1600. **Chand Bibi**, the custodian of the minor king Bahadur Nizam Shah of Ahmednagar, offered great resistance but was defeated. The consolidation of the **Fort of Asirgarh** was his last successful expedition. Mir Bahadur was the ruler of Asirgarh. Akbar opened the doors of the Asirgarh fort through gold keys & renamed it as Dhandesh. **Akbar built Buland Darwaza at Fatehpur Sikri as a memorial of his Gujarat conquest.** It was during his Gujarat expedition that he saw sea & met Portuguese traders for the first time.

Akbar's Conquests

State	Period	Defeated Ruler	Mughal leader
Malwa	1561	Bajbahadur	Adham Khan, Abdulla Khan Uzbek
Chunar	1561		Aasaf Khan
Gondwana	1564	Vir Narayan (custodian- Durgavati)	Aasaf Khan
Gujarat (first expedition)	1572	Muzaffar Khan III	Mirza Aziz Qoka (Khan-i-Azam)
Gujarat (second expedition)	1573	Muhammad Hussain Mirza	Akbar
Kabul	1581	Haqim Mirza	Mansingh & Akbar
Kashmir	1586	Yusuf Khan	Qasim Khan & Bhagwan Das
Sindh	1591	Jani Baig	Abdurrahim Khankhana
Orissa	1590- 1591	Nisar Khan	Mansingh
Qandhar	1595	Muzaffar Hussain	Willingly presented The fort to Mughal Subedar Shahbaig

Rajputana States -

Aamer	1562	Bharmal accepted Akbar's Suzerainty	
Medhta	1562	Jaimal	Sarfuddin
Mewar	1568	Udai Singh	Akbar

For the imperial expansion, Akbar's first attack was on Malwa in 1561. Adham Khan conquered Malwa in 1561 by defeating Bajbahadur. **Rani Rupmati**, wife of **Bajbahadur**, committed suicide by poisoning herself for keeping herself safe from Adham Khan. Chauragarh, situated near Jabalpur, was the capital of **Garhkatanga**, the Hindu state of Gondwana. Garhkatanga was colonized by Amandas. In 1564 Akbar waged a war against the state of Gondwana which was ruled by Rani Durgavati on behalf of her minor son, Bir Narayan. Akbar's general Asaf Khan attacked Gondwana and the heroic Rani fought the battle till she breathed her last in the battle field. Her young son, Bir Narayan, also died a hero's death. Thereafter Gondwana was annexed to the Mughal empire.

Rajput's were most loyal as friends, as also most dangerous as enemies. He tried to bring the Rajput's to his fold. He made all possible efforts to establish cordial relations with Rajput's.

He even stressed upon establishing matrimonial alliances with the Rajput rulers. As a result, the Rajput rulers of Ambar, Bikaner, Jaisalmer gave their daughters to the Mughal Emperor in marriage and earned his favour. In 1562, the Rajput ruler of Amer **Bharmal (Kachwaha dynasty)** offered him to marry his daughter **Harkha Bai or Jodha Bai**. It was the first matrimonial alliance of Akbar with any Rajput kingdom. He also offered respectable and high posts to the Rajput's who joined the Mughal service.

Akbar established matrimonial alliances with following Rajput rulers –

- 1) **Kachwaha ruler Bharmal of Amer**
- 2) **Motaraja Udaisingh of Marwad**
- 3) **Kalyanmal of Bikaner**
- 4) **Har Raya of Jaisalmer**

Mewar, ruled by Udaisingh, was the only state which did not submit to the Mughal empire. In 1567, Akbar attacked the Chittorgarh fort in Mewar that represented a key strategic importance towards establishing rule in Rajputana. Udai Singh's chiefs **Jaimal and Phatta** held off the Mughal forces for four months in 1568. Udai Singh was banished to the Hills of Mewar. Akbar was so impressed by the courage & valor of Jaimal & Phatta that he built their idols & placed them at the entrance of the fort of Agra. After conquering the Chittorhgarh fort, he did public executions which is a flaw on his character. It was for the first & last time that Akbar killed innocent people. He issued Fatehnama on the Chittorhgarh victory. Raja Udaisingh left Chittorh & colonized Udaipur.

Other Rajput states like Ranthambore fell in the face of Mughal forces, but Maharana Pratap, Udai Singh's son, put up a formidable resistance to Akbar's expansion of power. This was the only Rajput kindom, under the able leadership of Rana Pratap, which was not willing to compromise on its independence. After waiting for almost 3 years for Mewar ruler's submission, Akbar sent his general Raja Man Singh of Amber to have talks on peace treaties and persuade Rana Pratap Singh to submit. But Rana Pratap Singh refused to accept the submission.

In 1576, the Mughal army led by **Man Singh & Aasaf Khan** attacked on Mewar. The battle of Haldighati was fought on 18th June 1576 at Haldighati. According to Abul Fazal, this battle was fought at **Khamnor** but according to Badayun it was fought at **Gogunda**. Colonel Todd termed Haldighati as '**Thermopylae of Mewar**'. The battle's result is considered indecisive or it can be considered as a temporary victory for the Mughals. It is said that after the battle of Haldighat, Rana Pratap established his capital at **Chawand** & kept on attacking the Mughals, in what is termed as the techniques of guerrilla warfare. He made sure that the Mughal troops in Mewar would never live in peace.

Revolts –

In 1564, the Governor of Malwa, **Abdullah Uzbeg** revolted against Akbar. From 1564 to 1567, many other Uzbeg rulers, mainly including Governor of Jaunpur, Khanjama (Ali Quli Khan) & Governor of Oudh Khan Aalam, revolted. Being influenced by the Uzbeg revolt, Akbar's brother & the Governor of Kabul, **Mirza Haqim** attacked Punjab in 1566-67. In 1585-86, the **Afghan Baluchis (Yusufzai)** also revolted. They were the followers of Roshania sect. **Birbal** died during this revolt. Birbal (Mahesh Das) was from Kalpi (UP).

On 12th August, 1602, **Abul Fazal** was killed by the Orchcha Sardar **Vir Singh Bundela** on the order of **Salim**. In 1599, Prince Salim plotted conspiracy with the Portuguese & started revolt against Akbar. He declared himself as the independent ruler in Allahabad.

Akbar's Religious Policy

Akbar's rule was marked by wide religious tolerance and liberal outlook. He abolished **Jizya** in 1564. It was re-imposed in 1581 for some period but then again abolished it. Akbar was religiously curious. He regularly participated in the festivals of other faiths, and in 1575 in **Fatehpur Sikri**—a walled city that Akbar had designed in the Persian style—he built a temple (**ibadat-khana**) where he frequently hosted scholars from other religions, including Hindus, Zoroastrians, Christians, yogis, and Muslims of other sects. He allowed the Jesuits to construct a church at Agra, and discouraged the slaughter of cattle out of respect for Hindu custom. Not everyone appreciated these forays into multiculturalism, however, and many called him a heretic.

In 1579, a **mazhar**, or declaration signed by 5 Ulemas, was issued that granted Akbar the authority to interpret religious law, superseding the authority of the mullahs. This became known as the "Infallibility Decree," and it furthered Akbar's ability to create an interreligious and multicultural state. The draft of Mazhar was prepared by **Shekh Mubaraq** but its release was driven by Shekh Mubaraq & his sons Abul-Fazal & Faizi. After issuing Mazhar, Akbar assumed the title of **Sultan-i-Aadil** or **Imam-i-Aadil** (justice loving Emperor). In 1582 he established a new cult, the **Tauhid-i-Ilahi** or **Din-i-Ilahi** ("divine faith"), which combined elements of many religions, including Islam, Hinduism and Zoroastrianism. **Abul Fazal** was the head priest of Din-i-Ilahi. Among Hindus, only **Birbal (Mahesh Das)** adopted this cult. Under this cult, initiation (Deeksha) was provided on every Sunday. For the vast Mughal empire to be enduring Din-i-Ilahi was probably the only alternative. However time, proved it as Akbar's 'Monument of Folly'. The faith centered around Akbar as a prophet or spiritual leader, but it did not procure many converts and died with Akbar.

In 1580, the Qazi of Jaunpur, **Mulla Muhammad Yazdi** issued Fatwa & declared Akbar as a non-muslim & called for revolt against him. In 1563, Akbar abolished the pilgrimage tax imposed in Prayag & Benaras. Badayuni was fanatic opponent of Akbar's religious policies. He presented a long list of Akbar's anti-Muslim works. He called Akbar as the enemy of Islam. **Shekh Ahmed Sarhindi** of the Nakshbandi order also criticized the liberal religious policies of Akbar. Jahangir also arrested Sarhindi. Akbar was most influenced by the Hindu religion.

Akbar granted the jagirs of **Gokul & Jaitpura** to **Vallabhacharya's** son **Vitthalnath**. He also granted 200 bigha land to the Persian priest Dastur Mehar Ji Rana. He assigned the title of '**Jagatguru**' to Jain Saint Heer Vijaya Suri & '**Yug Pradhan**' to Jain saint **Jinprabha Suri**. He met the 3rd Sikh guru **Amardas** & granted jagirs to his daughter. He also granted a 500 bigha land with natural pond to **Guru Ramdas**, where Amritsar was colonized. Akbar started some customs like Jharokha darshan, Tuladan & Paibos.

Akbar was also a social reformer. He made efforts to end the practice of Sati-custom & gave legal recognition to widow remarriage. He banned on selling of alcohol. He used to celebrate Hindu festivals like Rakhi, Diwali, Dusshetra. He fixed the age of marriage for men & women to 16 years & 14years respectively. The Mughal court welcomed 3 Christian (Jesuit) missionaries during his reign. The first missionary included **Rudolf Aquaviva, Antony Monserrate & Francis Henriquez**. Father Monserrate was appointed as Prince Murad's teacher.

Akbar's Nine Jewels or Navratnas –

1. **Mullah do Piazza** – advisor to Akbar
2. **Hamim Humam** - A very close friend of Akbar, Hamim Humam was the chief of royal school.

3. **Abdul Rahim Khan-i-Khana** – Akbar’s trusted guardian & mentor. Known for his Urdu couplets & his book on astrology.
4. **Abul Fazal** - A profound thinker and writer, Abul Fazal is known for his books, Akbarnama and Ain-i-Akbari.
5. **Tansen** – Akbar’s Court singer.
6. **Raja Man Singh** – commander of army
7. **Todarmal** – Financial expert
8. **Faizi** – poet. He translated Leelawati into Persian language.
9. **Birbal** – Akbar’s closest friend.

In 1605, at the age of 63, Akbar fell ill with a serious case of dysentery. He never recovered from it and after three weeks of suffering, he passed away on **25th October, 1605** at Fatehpur Sikri. He was buried at **Sikandra, Agra** at the mausoleum built by **Jahangir**. Akbar’s tomb is constructed in the shape of a Buddhist Vihar. It lacks domes.

Raulph Finch was the first British trader to visit Akbar’s Court. **Father Stevenson** was the first Britisher to visit India as a Clergy. **John Mildenhall** was the first Britisher to arrive at the western coast (Gujarat) during Akbar’s reign. He visited Agra in 1603 for trade purposes but was unsuccessful. Akbar’s 2 sons **Hussain & Hassan** died at in infancy & other 2 **Danial & Murad** died due to excess consumption of alcohol.

Jahangir (1605-1624)

Jahangir or Nur-ud-din Muhammad Salim was born on 30th August 1569 at the shack of **Shekh Salim Chishti** in Fatehpur Sikri. His mother **Harkha Bai (Mariam Uz-Zamani)** was the daughter of king Bharmal of Amer. Jahangir was married in 1585 to his first wife **Manbai**. She was daughter of King Bhagwandas of Amer & sister of Man Singh. Khausrao was the son of Jahangir & Manbai. He revolted against his father Jahangir, hence after suppression he was partially blinded for his act. **Jagat Gosai (Jodha Bai)**, daughter of king Udai Singh of Marwad, was Jahangir’s second wife. She was assigned with the title of **‘Mallika-i-Jahan**. Manbai was assigned with the title of **Shah Begum**. Karamnasi was another wife of Jahangir. Jahangir had 20 wives. **Mehr-un-Nissa**, popularly known as **Nur Jahan**, was his 20th, last & most favourite wife.

Salim ascended the throne with the title of Nur-ud-din Muhammad Jahangir Badshah Ghazi on 3 November 1605 at the Agra Fort. As soon as he became the Emperor, he issued 12 orders of conduct, known as **Dastur-ul-Amal**.

Jahangir issued the following orders which demonstrate his concern for the welfare of the people:-

- 1) He abolished the Tagma’ and “meerwahi” toll taxes and the taxes that the Subedars imposed on the people for their expenses.
- 2) He ordered for the construction of mosques, sarais, and wells on the road-sides which reduced the dangers from the thieves and dacoits.
- 3) He ordered that the property of the dead would be passed over to their legal heirs and the unclaimed property would go to the state, the income of which would be spent on public-welfare.
- 4) He banned the manufacture and sale of the intoxicants although he himself was addicted to drinking.
- 5) He disallowed the mutilation of the limbs of the criminals.