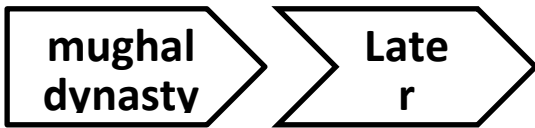


ODM PUBLIC SCHOOL, BHUBANESWAR
STUDY NOTES
STD-VII
HISTORY

CHAPTER-3- THE MUGHAL DYNASTY

Time line of Mughal Dynasty



The Foundation of the Mughal Empire in India was laid by Babur, who was a Turk.

Babur (1526-1530)

- Babur is the founder of the Mughal Empire in India.
- He was a descendant of Timur (on his father's side) and Genghis Khan (on his Mother's side).
- His original name was Zahiruddin Muhammad.
- In 1494 at the age of 11, Babur became the ruler of Farghana (at present in Chinese Turkistan) succeeding Umar Shaikh Mirza, his father.
- **Daulat Khan**, the most powerful noble of Punjab, who was discontented with Ibrahim Lodi, invited **Babur** to invade India.

He undertook four expeditions to India in order to conquer it between the years 1519 and 1523. .

Babur's Military Conquests

- In 1504, Babur occupied Kabul.
- In 1524, Babur occupied Lahore but had to retreat to Kabul after **Daulat Khan** turned against him.
- In November 1525, Babur attacked and occupied Punjab again.
- On 21st April 1526, Babur defeated Ibrahim Lodi in the first Battle of Panipat and quickly occupied **Delhi** and Despite of vast and superior troop Ibrahim Lodi lost in the battle due to Babur's superior strategy and use of artillery.

- The **First Battle of Panipat** marked the foundation of Mughal dominion in India.
- Babur conquered Delhi and sent his son Humayun to seize Agra.

Babur announced himself as “Emperor of Hindustan”.

- **First Battle of Panipat** (1526 CE)

Hearing of the size of Ibrahim's army, Babur secured his right flank against the city of Panipat, while digging a trench covered with tree branches to secure his left flanks. In the centre, he placed 700 carts tied together with ropes. Between every two carts, there were breastworks for his matchlock men. Babur also ensured there When Ibrahim's army arrived, he found the approach to Babur's army too narrow to attack. While Ibrahim redeployed his forces to allow for the narrower front, Babur quickly took advantage of the situation to flank (tulghuma) the Lodi army. Many of Ibrahim's troops were unable to get into action, and fled when the battle turned them. Ibrahim Lodi was killed while trying to retreat and beheaded. 20,000 Lodi soldiers were killed in the battle.

- **The Battle of Khanwa 1527:-** took place at Khanwa, near Fatehpur-Sikri, on 16 March 1527. Before the battle, Babur had carefully inspected the site. Like in Panipat, he strengthened his front by procuring carts that were fastened by iron chains (not leather straps, as at Panipat) in the Ottoman fashion. These were used for providing shelter to horses and for storing artillery. Gaps between the carts were used for horsemen to charge at the opponent at an opportune time. To lengthen the line, ropes made of rawhide were placed over wheeled wooden tripods. Behind the tripods, matchlock men were placed who could fire and, if required, advance. The flanks were given protection by digging ditches. In addition to the regular force, small contingents were kept apart on the left flank and in front for the tulghuma (flanking) tactic. Thus, a strong offensive-defensive formation had been prepared by Babur. Rana Sanga, fighting in a traditional way, attacked the Mughal army's flanks. He was prevented from breaking through by reinforcements dispatched by Babur. Once the advance of the Rajputs and their Afghan allies had been contained, Babur's flanking tactic came into play. The carts and matchlock men were ordered to advance, hemming in the Rajputs and their allies. At about this time Silhadi of Raisen deserted the Ranas army and went over to Babur's. Despite putting up a gallant fight, Rana Sanga and his allies suffered a disastrous defeat. Following his victory, Babur ordered a tower of enemy skulls to

be erected, a practice formulated by Timur against his adversaries, irrespective of their religious beliefs. According to Chandra, the objective of constructing a tower of skulls was not just to record a great victory, but also to terrorize opponents. Earlier, the same tactic had been used by Babur against the Afghans of Bajaur.

- Humayun was the eldest son of Babur.

- He was lacking wisdom, discretion, and strong determination and diligence of his ***Thus, as a king he was a failure.***
- Humayun means “fortune” but he remained the most unfortunate ruler of the Mughal Empire.
- Six months after his succession, **Humayun** besieged the fortress of **Kalinjar** in Bundelkhand, gained a decisive victory over Afghans at **Douhrua** and drove out **Sultan Mahmood Lodhi** from **Jaunpur**, and even defeated **Bahadur Shah** of Gujarat. His victories, however, were short-lived due to the weakness of his character.
- Humayun had three brothers, Kamran, Askari and Hindal
- Humayun divided the empire among his brothers but this proved to be a great blunder on his part.
- Kamran was given Kabul and Kandahar.
- Sambhal and Alwar were given to Askari and Hindal respectively.
- Humayun captured Gujarat from Bahadur Shah and appointed Askari as its governor
- But soon Bahadur Shah recovered Gujarat from Askari who fled from there.
- In the east, Sher Khan became powerful. Humayun marched against him and in the Battle of Chausa, held in 1539, Sher Khan destroyed the Mughal army and Humayun escaped from there.
- Humayun reached Agra to negotiate with his brothers.
- In 1540, in the Battle of Bilgram or Ganges also known as Battle of Kanauj, Humayun was forced to fight with Sher Khan alone and after losing his kingdom, Humayun became an exile for the next fifteen years.
- In 1552, during his wanderings in deserts of Sindh, **Humayun** married **Hamida Banu Begum**, daughter of Sheikh Ali Amber Jaini, who had been a preceptor of Humayun’s brother Hindal.
- On November 23, 1542, **Humayun’s wife gave birth to Akbar**
- Amarkot’s Hindu chief **RanaPrasad** promised **Humayun** to help him to conquer **Thatta** and
- However, Humayun could not conquer Bhakker or secure **Thus, he left India and lived under the generosity of ShahTahmashp of Persia.**
- **Shah of Persia agreed to help Humayun and lend him a force of 14,000 men on a condition to confirm to Shia creed, to have the Shah’s name proclaimed in his Khutba and to give away Kandhar to him on his success.**
- In 1545, with Persian help, Humayun captured Kandhar and Kabul but refused to cede Kandhar to Persia.
- Humayun sought help from the Iran ruler.
- Later, he defeated his brothers Kamran and Askari.
- In 1555, Humayun defeated the Afghans and recovered the Mughal throne.
- After six months, he died in 1556 due to his fall from the staircase of his library.
- Humayun was kind and generous, though he was not a good General and warrior.
- He also loved painting and wrote poetry in the Persian language.

Akbar the Great (1556-1605 CE)

- Akbar’s position was in danger when he succeeded his father Humayun as Delhi was seized by the Afghans.
- In 1556, in the second battle of Panipat, Akbar defeated Hemu and the army of Hemu fled which made the victory of Mughal decisive.

- During the first 5 years of Akbar's reign, Bairam Khan acted as his regent.

Later, Akbar removed Bairam Khan and sent him to Mecca but Bairam Khan was killed by an Afghan on his way.

Akbar's Relation with Rajputs

- Akbar married the Rajput Princess, the daughter of Raja Bharmal.
- For four-generation, the Rajputs served the Mughals and many served in the positions of military generals as well.
- Akbar appointed Raja Man Singh and Raja Bhagawan Das in the senior position of the Mughal Administration.
- Though the majority of the Rajput states surrendered to Akbar, the Ranas of Mewar continued to confront even though they were defeated several times.
- In 1576, the Mughal Army defeated Rana Pratap Singh in the battle of Haldighati, following the defeat of Mewar, other leading Rajput leaders surrendered to Akbar and accepted his
- Akbar's policy towards Rajput was combined with broad religious toleration.

He abolished the pilgrim tax and later the jiziya.

● Akbar's Religious Policy

- It's Akbar's religious policy that made way to his name in the history pages.
- Akbar was a pious Muslim but after marrying Jodha Bai of Amber, he abolished pilgrim tax.
- In 1562, he abolished jiziya.
- He allowed his Hindu wives to worship their own gods.
- In 1575, Akbar built Ibadat Khana (House of worship) at his new capital Fatepur Sikri and invited scholars from all religions like Christianity, Hinduism, Jainism, and Zoroastrianism.
- He did not like the intrusion of the Muslim Ulemas in political matters.
- In 1579, he delivered the "Infallibility Decree" and proclaimed his religious powers.
- In 1582, he propagated a new religion called Din Ilahi or Divine Faith.
- About Din Ilahi
- The new religion believed in one God.
- It had all the good points of every religion.
- Its foundation was balanced.
- It didn't endorse any philosophy.
- It aimed at bridging the gap that separated different religions.
- The new religion had only 15 followers including Birbal.
- Akbar did not compel anyone to join his new religion.
- However, the new religion proved to be a failure, after Akbar's death.

● Land Revenue Administration

- With the help of Raja Todar Mal, Akbar experimented on the land revenue administration, which was completed in 1580.

- The land revenue system was called **Zabti or Bandobast system or Dahsala System.**
- The revenue was fixed on the average yield of land measured on the basis of previous ten years.
- The land was divided into four categories
- **Polaj (cultivated every year)**
- **Parauti (once in two years)**
- **Chachar (once in three or four years)**
- **Banjar (once in five or more years)**
- **Payment of revenue was made generally in cash.**

Mansabdari System

- **Akbar introduced the Mansabdari system in his administration**
- **Under this system every officer was assigned a rank (Mansab)**
- Lowest rank was 10 and the highest was 5000 for the nobles.
- Princes of royal blood received even higher ranks.
- The ranks were divided into two – **Zat** and **Sawar**.
- **Zat** means personal and it fixed the personal status of a person.
- **Sawar** rank indicated the number of cavalrymen of a person who was required to maintain.
- Every sawar had to maintain at least two horses.

All appointments, promotions and dismissals were directly made by the emperor.

Jahangir (1605-1627)

- In 1605, Prince Salim succeeded with the title **Jahangir (Conqueror of World)** after the death of Akbar.
- He defeated and imprisoned Son **Khusrau**.
- He also beheaded **Guru Arjun**, the 5th Sikh Guru and one of the supporters of **Khusrau**.
- One of his supporters, **Guru Arjun**, the fifth Sikh Guru, was beheaded.

Nur Jahan

- In 1611, Jahangir married **Mehrunnisa** who was known as **Nur Jahan (Light of World)**.
- **Asaf Khan** elder brother of Nur Jahan was appointed as **Khan-i-Saman**, a post reserved for the nobles.
- In 1612, **Asaf Khan's** daughter, **Arjumand Banu Begum** (later known as **Mumtaz**), married Jahangir's third son, prince **Khurram** (later **Shah Jahan**).

Shah Jahan (1627-1658)

- **Shah Jahan** launched a continued war in the northwest frontier to recover **Kandahar** and other ancestral lands.
- His **Deccan** policy was more successful.
- He defeated the forces of **Ahmadnagar** and seized it.

- Both Bijapur and Golkonda signed a treaty with the emperor.
- Shah Jahan engraved four Mughal provinces in the Deccan – Khandesh, Berar, Telungana and Daulatabad

War of Succession

- **The last years of Shah Jahan's reign were clouded by a bitter war of succession among his four sons**
- **Dara Shikoh (crown prince)**
- **Shuja (governor of Bengal)**
- **Aurangzeb (governor of Deccan)**
- **Murad Baksh (governor of Malwa and Gujarat)**
- **Aurangzeb emerged victorious in this struggle**
- **He entered the Agra Fort after defeating Dara**
- **He forced Shah Jahan to surrender**
- **Shah Jahan was confined to the female apartments in the Agra fort and strictly put under watch**
- **Shah Jahan lived for eight long years lovingly nursed by his daughter Jahanara**

Aurangzeb (1658-1707 CE):

- Aurangzeb was one of the ablest kings of the Mughal.
- He assumed the title Alamgir, World Conqueror.
- In his first ten years of reign, his military campaigns were a great success.
- But in the latter part of his reign, he faced serious difficulties.
- The Jats and Satnamis and also the Sikhs revolted against him due to his harsh religious policy.
- The Deccan policy of the Mughals started from the reign of Akbar.
- Aurangzeb, as governor of Deccan, followed a belligerent Deccan policy.
- He concentrated on the northwest frontier in his first 25 years as the Mughal emperor
- In the same time, Sivaji, the Maratha Ruler carved an independent Maratha kingdom in the territories of north and south Konkan.
- Aurangzeb decided to invade Bijapur and Golkonda to hold the spread of the Marathas.
- He defeated Sikandar Shah of Bijapur and seized his kingdom.
- He proceeded against Golkonda and eliminated the Kutb Shahi dynasty.
- The destruction of the Deccan kingdoms was a political blunder by Aurangzeb.
- The barrier between the Mughals and the Marathas was removed and there ensued a direct confrontation between them.

Religious Policy

- His ideal was to transform India into an Islamic state.

- He created a separate department to enforce moral codes under a high-powered officer called Muhtasib.
- Drinking was prohibited. Cultivation and use of bhang and other drugs were banned
- Aurangzeb forbade music in the Mughal court

Personality and Character of Aurangzeb

- Aurangzeb was an orthodox Sunni Muslim.
- In his private life, Aurangzeb was diligent and disciplined
- He was very simple in food and dress.
- He earned money for his personal expenses by copying Quran and selling those copies.
- He did not consume wine.
- He was proficient in Arabic and Persian languages.
- He was devoted to his religion and conducted prayers five times a day.
- He strictly observed the Ramzan fasting.
- He misunderstood the true nature of the Maratha movement and provoked them.
- Also, he failed to solve the Maratha problem and left an open sore.
- His policy towards Shia Deccan Sultanates also proved to be wrong.
- His antagonistic policies towards non-Muslims did not help him to rally the Muslims to his side and strengthened political enemies of the Mughal Empire.