



The Mughal Empire

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SUMMARY

The Mughal (or Mogul) Empire ruled most of India and Pakistan in the 16th and 17th centuries. It consolidated Islam in South Asia and spread Muslim arts and culture as well as the faith. The Mughals were Muslims who ruled a country with a large Hindu majority.

1526 - 1530



BABUR



1530 - 1556



HUMAYUN



1556 - 1605



AKBAR



1605 - 1627



JAHANGIR



1627 - 1658



SHAH JAHAN



1658 - 1707



AURANGZED



The Taj Mahal

A symbol of Muslim art in India, the Taj Mahal is admired universally as a masterpiece of world heritage.

OVERVIEW

The Taj Mahal is a tomb made to honor the remains of emperor Shah Jahan's wife Mumtaz Mahal, who died while giving birth to her fourteenth child. The Taj Mahal is a monument and tribute to her.

CONSTRUCTION AND COSTS

Construction on the Taj Mahal started in 1631 in Agra, India and took roughly 22,000 workers and 1,000 elephants to move the white marble into the according places. With an estimated cost of over thirty two million rupees, the tomb was completed in 1653 (after 20 years).

CREATIVE THINKING

The Taj Mahal was commissioned by Shah Jahan in 1631, to be built in the memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal, a Persian princess who died giving birth to their 14th child, Gauhara Begum. Construction of the Taj Mahal began in 1632. The imperial court documenting Shah Jahan's grief after the death of Mumtaz Mahal illustrate the love story held as the inspiration for Taj Mahal.[9][10] The principal mausoleum was completed in 1643 and the surrounding buildings and garden were finished about five years later.



Taken in Mehtab Bagh, the gardens behind the Taj Mahal.



Corner view of Taj Mahal

British East India Company

An English company formed for the misuse of trade with regions such as India, the East, and Southeast Asia.

WHEN

Began by the British Royal Charter on December 31, 1600.

WHY

The company was established to share in the East Indian spice trade. The BEIC started as a monopolistic trading body, but later became more involved in politics and acted as an agent of British influence and power over India from the 16th to the mid-19th centuries.

RESULT

The BEIC's defeat of the Portuguese in India won them the ability to trade with the Mughal Empire. The company traded for cotton, silk goods, indigo, and spices from South India, in addition to other products.



KEY CONCEPTS OVERVIEW



Art

- One of the seven wonders of the world. A big grave for Shah Jahan's wife who died in childbirth.



The Government

- A federation with an absolute monarch. Used a Mansabdar system to tax people.



The Muslim Faith

- Muslims were the main ruling class. The Mughal empire was very beneficial to the faith as it generated new followers.



Akbar

- Considered the greatest ruler of this empire. Started an era of tolerance and peace between religions.



Aurangzeb

- The last emperor who helped the Mughal Empire reached its peak, and also hit its end. Made a great expansion to the empire.



Babur

- The founder of the Mughal empire, reigning from 1526 to 1530, who became the first Mughal emperor.

CITATIONS

http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Mughal_Empire <http://www.history.com/topics/taj-mahal> <https://www.britannica.com/topic/East-India> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mansabdar> <https://www.biography.com/people/akbar-the-great-9178165> <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Babur> <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Aurangzeb>