

Mughal dynasties and Islam in India

The entitlement Mughal is Persian and simply means Mongol. Babur was the founder of this dynasty, he was a direct descendent of Timur Lenk, who claimed to be a descendent from the great Mongol conqueror Genghis Khan.

Born in Samarkand, which is now part of Uzbekistan, Babur was forced to leave due to the ongoing internal conflicts. He finally established his settlements in Afghanistan after a successful conquest, from where he began to set out his plan in conquering the Indian subcontinent. This finally came in 1526 when he and his army annexed Delhi which also became the center of the prospected Mughal Empire. India was called Hindustan back then and consisted of the following countries: India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The Mughal Empire peaked in its zenith in which 6 great Mughal rulers came in to the throne:

1. Babur was born in 1483 on February the 23rd and died on the 26th of December 1530. He ruled from the year 1526 till 1530 and he was the founder of the Mughal Dynasty.

2. Humayun was born in 1508 on March the 17th and died on the 27th of January 1556. He ruled from the year 1530 till 1556 and his reign was a difficult one as he endured many losses after the death of his father Babur. During this turmoil he fled to Persia with his family and with the help from his in-laws in Persia, he led a campaign to recapture his Empire.

3. Akbar was born in 1542 on October the 14th and died on the 27th of October 1605. He ruled from the year 1556 till 1605 and he proved to be a great ruler. The emperor was famous and praised among his subjects. He was and is still praised for his tolerance towards the non-Muslims.

4. Jahangier or Salim is the son of Akbar, born on 20th of September 1569 and died on November of 8th 1627. Reigned from 1605 to 1627, it should be noted that Jahangier had often been ill and his task of ruling and governing was taken over by his wife Noor Jahan.

5. Shah Jahan born on 5th January 1592 and died on 22nd of January 1666, has ruled from 1627 to 1658. He is known as the Architect and Builder of the Taj Mahal, a magnificent mausoleum which he built for his deceased wife Mumtaz.



Mughal Elite Armor.
Chain mail with helmet.
17th Century CE.

6. Aurangzeb born on 4th of November 1618 and died on the 3rd of March 1707, ruled from 1658 to 1707. He was the son of Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal, he was also the Emperor of the Largest Mughal Empire. After Aurangzeb the Mughal Empire went into decline and he is therefore also the last great Mughal ruler.



Mughal war elephant.
Completely covered in armor.