

Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal Empires

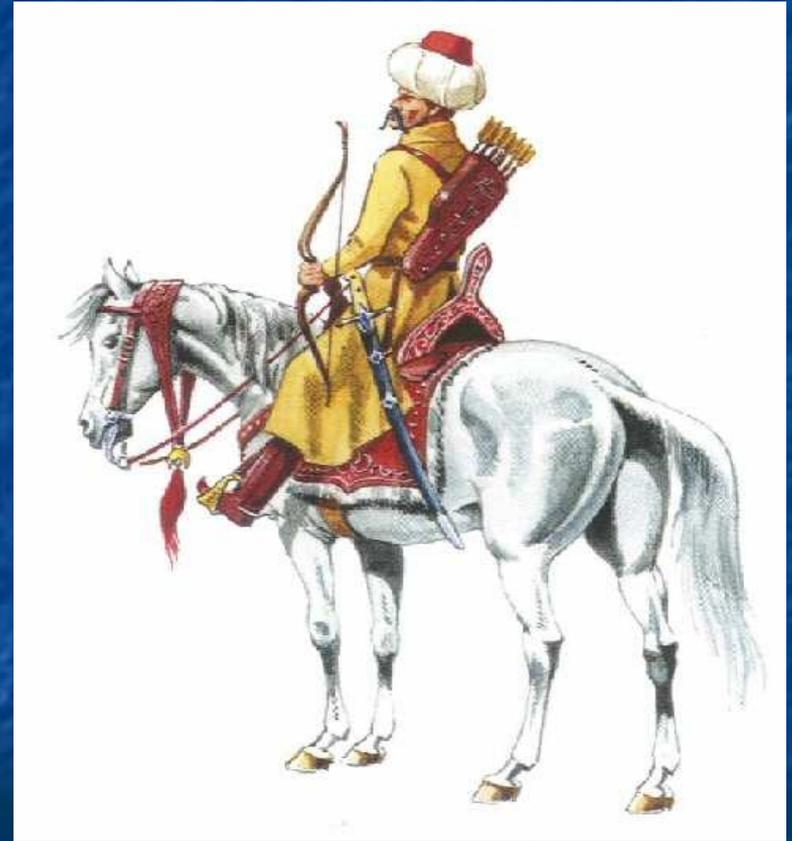
Ottomans

- The Osman Turks started on the Anatolian Peninsula in Turkey.
- They started on land granted them by the Seljuk Turks.
- They were a pastoral and peaceful people at the start.
- As the Seljuk Turks began to decline, the Osman began to expand. The Ottoman dynasty began.



Ottoman

- In the 14th century, the Ottomans moved into the Balkans.
- They took the title of sultan and began to build a strong military by developing the “janissaries.”
- Janissary were an elite military guard recruited from Christians, converted to Islam, and trained as foot soldiers or administrators to the sultan.



Ottoman

- April 6, 1253, the Ottoman Turks laid siege to the city of Constantinople.
- May 29, 1253, Constantinople fell to the Ottoman Turks and Mehmet II.
- The Turks spent 3 days sacking the city. Many people lost their lives inside the city.
- The city was later renamed Istanbul.



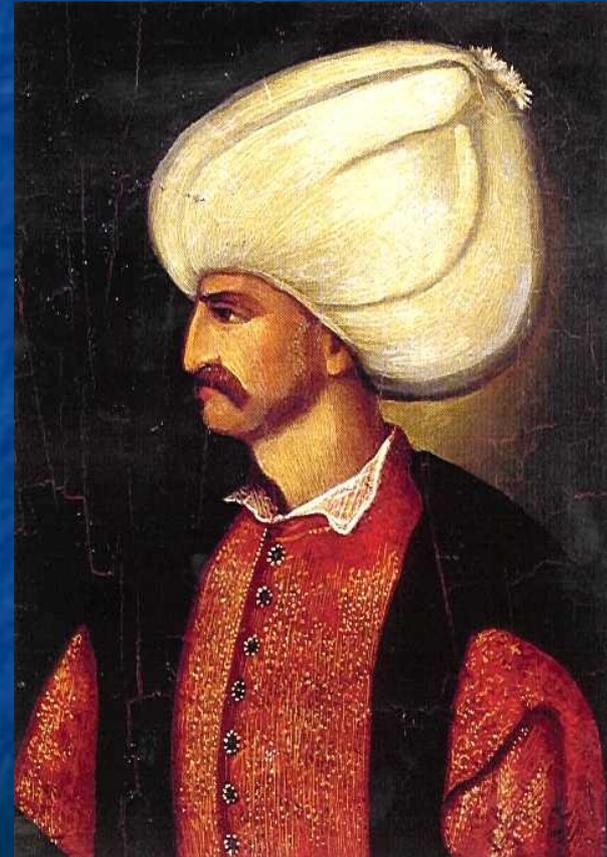
Ottoman

- Selim I took control of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Arabia – included Jerusalem, Mecca, and Madinah.
- He took the title of caliph, defender of the faith.
- The Ottoman Empire went from the Black Sea to the Red Sea to the Strait of Gibraltar.
- There was little impact on North Africa.
- Pashas, appointed government officials, collected taxes and maintained law and order reported to the sultan in Constantinople.



Ottoman

- Suleiman I, or Suleiman the Magnificent, came to rule in 1520. He expanded Ottoman rule into Europe and the western Med. Sea.
- He ruled for 46 years. He was a great military commander, but he known for his legislation as well.
- He codified Ottoman law keeping Islamic faith, took into account Christian inhabitants of the Empire, addressed taxes, and built more schools.



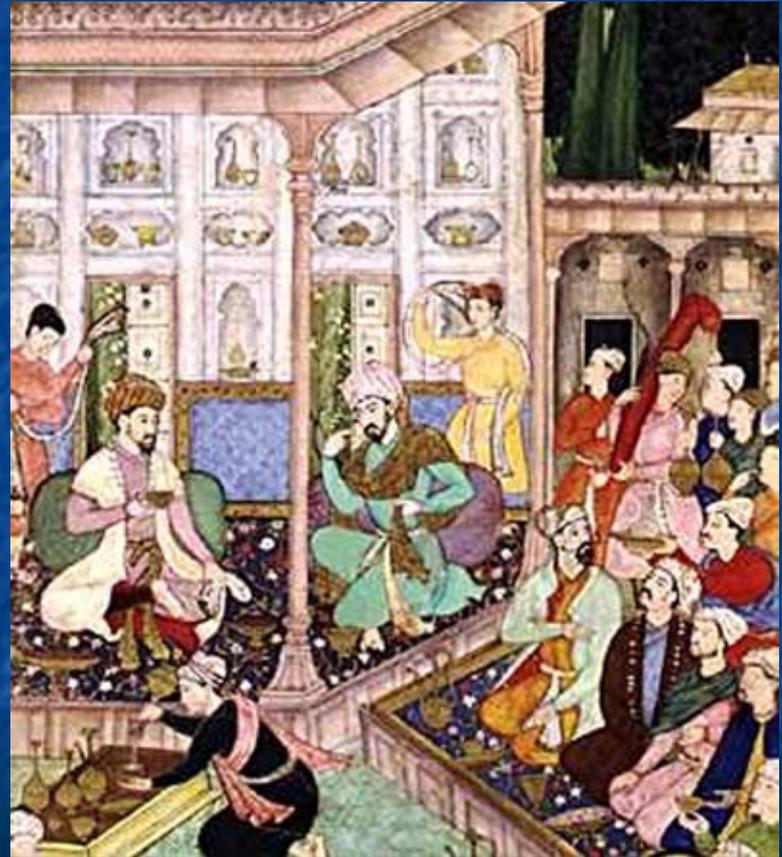
Ottoman

- Suleiman I may have been able to run an empire, but his personal life was different.
- He married a harem girl from Poland named Roxelana and had 5 children with her.
- He executed his eldest son, Mustafa, because Roxelana said he was planning to kill Suleiman and take power – her son Selim took power when Suleiman died in 1566.



Ottoman

- The Ottoman Empire was like most Muslim empires of the time; it was a "gunpowder empire" – the empire's success largely based on the mastery of the technology of firearms."
- Sultans were the head of the empire. Sultans were the supreme authorities in both political and military senses.
- The position of sultan was hereditary – a son always succeeded the father.
- Many deaths among family members took place because of this.



Ottoman

- Since the times of Mehmet II, Ottoman sultans ruled from the Topkapi Palace in Istanbul.
- It served as an administrative headquarters and chief residence of the sultan.
- The private domain of the sultan was called a “harem,” or “sacred place.” Here the sultan and his wives lived. Sultans often chose 4 wives as his favorites.
- When a son became sultan, his mother became queen mother and acted as a major adviser to the throne.



Ottoman

- The chief advisor to the sultan was the “grand vizier.”
- He led meetings of the imperial council that met 4 days a week.
- The sultan sat behind a screen and made his wishes known to the grand vizier.
- The empire was divided into districts and ruled by officials who were helped by bureaucrats trained at palace schools.
- Senior officials were given land but the sultan and were responsible for collecting taxes and supplying armies for the empire



Ottoman

- The Ottomans were Sunni Muslims. Sultans had claimed the title of caliph since the 16th century. They were responsible for guiding the flock and keeping Islamic law.
- In practice, they gave their religious duties to the “ulema”- a group of religious advisors.
- The ulema were responsible for the legal system and schools for educating Muslims.



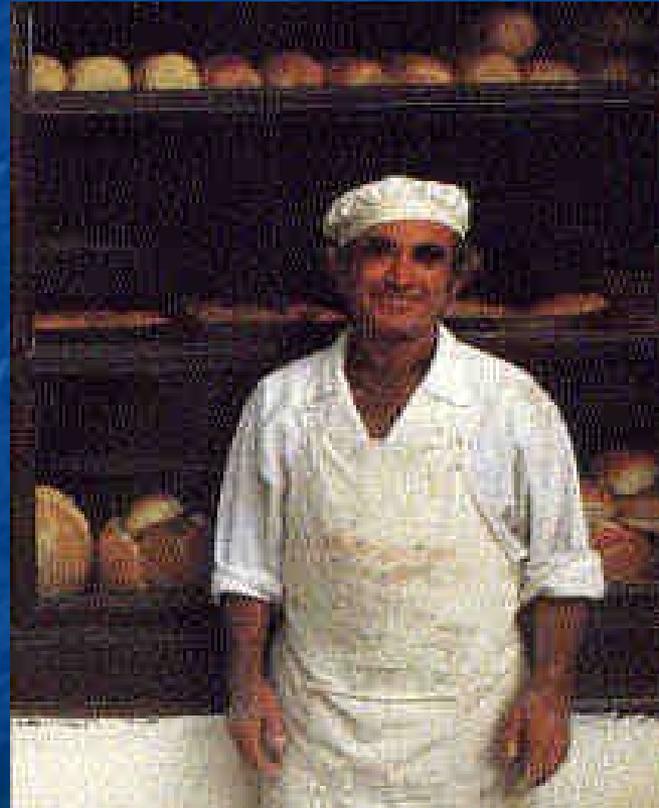
Ottoman

- The Ottoman were tolerant of non-Muslims. Non-Muslims paid a tax, but they were allowed to practice their religion or to convert to Islam.
- Most people in the European areas of the empire remained Christian. In some areas, the large numbers converted to the Islamic faith.



Ottoman

- The subjects were divided by occupation.
- Besides the ruling class, there were 4 main occupational groups: peasants, artisans, merchants, and pastoral peoples.
- Peasants were farmers; artisans were set up by craft guilds; merchants were exempt from taxes and could amass large fortunes; and pastoral people had their own laws and regulations.



Ottoman

- The problems of the Ottoman Empire began with Selim II.
- Around 1699, the problems became more visible. The training of officials declined, and senior positions were given to the sons and daughters of the elite. Members of the elite were busy trying to amass their own fortunes, so local government grew more corrupt and taxes rose. Wars depleted the imperial treasury.



Ottoman

- Other problems arose.
- The biggest problem was the influence of Western Europe.
- Western clothes, Western furniture, tobacco and coffee were introduced to the Ottomans.
- Some sultans tried to fight the trends of Western Europe. One outlawed tobacco and coffee. If he caught anyone taking part in immoral or illegal behavior, he had them immediately executed.



Safavid

- The Safavid Dynasty started with Shah Ismail.
- He was a descendant of Safi al-Din who had been the leader of a Turkish ethnic groups in Azerbaijan near the Caspian Sea.
- Under Ismail, the Safavid took control of much of Iran and Iraq



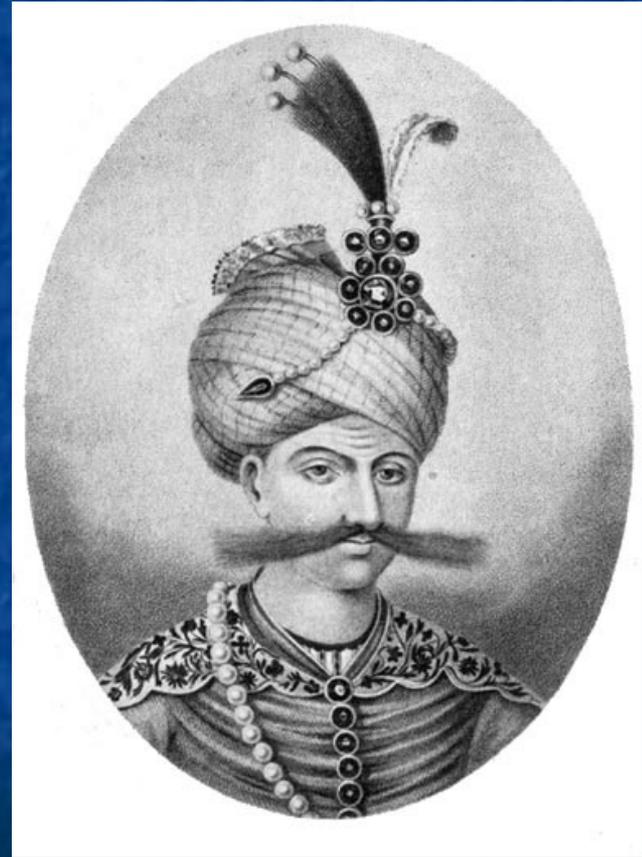
Safavid

- Ismail called himself “shah,” or king, of the new Persian state.
- Ismail was a Shiite Muslim. He sent preachers to different areas to convert members of the Ottoman Empire.
- This led to the massacre of Sunni Muslims when he took Baghdad.
- Ismail lost a major at Tabriz to Suleiman over religious differences.



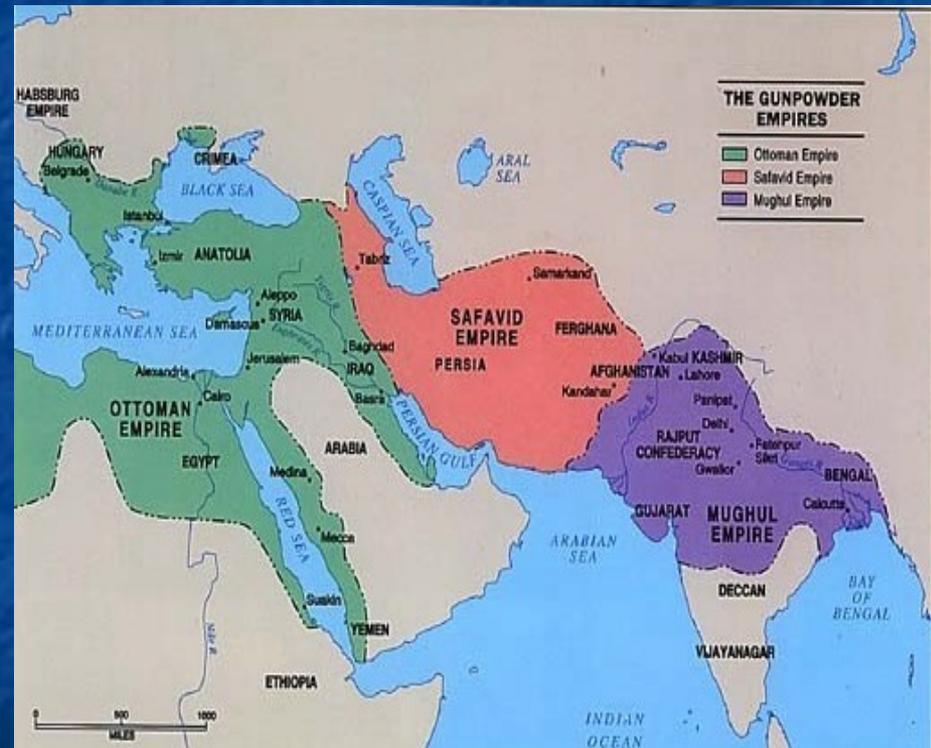
Safavid

- Shah Abbas, who ruled from 1588 to 1629, brought the Safavids to their highest point of glory.
- He usurped the throne from his father and imprisoned him. He later killed the man who helped him get the throne.
- He attacked the Ottoman Turks, with European help – they saw the Safavids as allies – to regain lost lands from the Ottomans.
- The Safavids could not keep territorial gains, but a treaty was signed in 1612 returning Azerbaijan to the Safavids.



Safavid

- The Safavid Empire went from Azerbaijan on the Caspian Sea east to India; along the Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea north to the southern border of Russia.
- When Shah Abbas died, religious orthodoxy, a pressure to conform to traditional religious beliefs, increased. Women were to give up freedom for a life of seclusion and the wearing of the veil.



Safavid

- Isfahan was the Safavid capital.
- While under Shah Hussein, it was taken by Afghan peoples.
- Persia sank into a period of anarchy – lawlessness and disorder.
- The role of the shah was that of a king.
- The social structure was Shah, bureaucracy and landed classes, then the common people.
- The official religion was Shia Islam because the Shiites supported the shahs at first.



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Safavid

- Isfahan was the jewel of the Safavid Empire, and it is still that for modern-day Iran.
- Silk weaving flourished, but carpet weaving flourished more – Persian rugs are still prized today.
- Riza-i-Abbasi is the most famous artist of this time. He made beautiful works about simple subjects such as oxen plowing, hunters, and lovers. They used soft colors and flowing movement in painting.



Moguls

- Babur was the founder of the Mogul Empire and united the Hindu and Muslim kingdoms of India.
- He was a descendant of Timur Lenk, and his mother, from the Mongol conquerors of Genghis Khan.
- He took the Khyber Pass in northwest India and the city of Delhi in North India.
- His armies were usually smaller than his opponents but had weapons, artillery, and used them with great effect.



Mogul

- Akbar the Great was the grandson of Babur'
- He placed most of India under Mogul control by use of artillery and negotiation.
- He was best known for his humane character of his rule: he adopted a policy of religious tolerance – even marrying a Hindu princess.
- Zamindars were low ranking officials of Hindu descent who got paid by keeping part of collected taxes. They were part of his toleration of government administration.



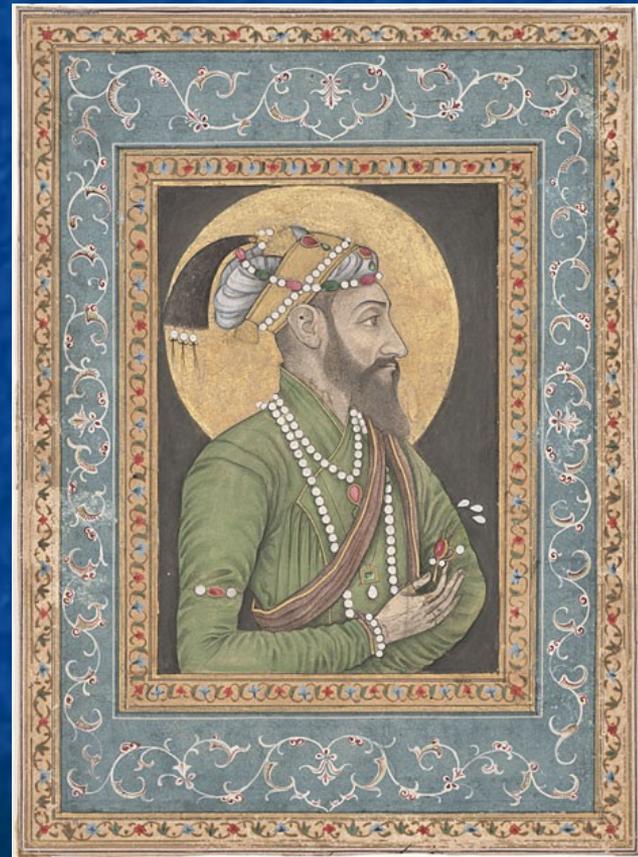
Mogul

- Shah Jahan ruled from 1628 to 1658. He ruled using the political system started by earlier Mogul rulers.
- He expanded the boundaries of the Mogul Empire through campaigns through the Deccan Plateau and Samarkand in the Hindu Kush.
- He is best known for the Taj Mahal – a mausoleum for his favorite wife, Mumatz Mahal. This is the finest piece of Mogul architecture. It combines Persian, Ottoman, Indian, and Islamic styles.
- It is located in Agra, India.



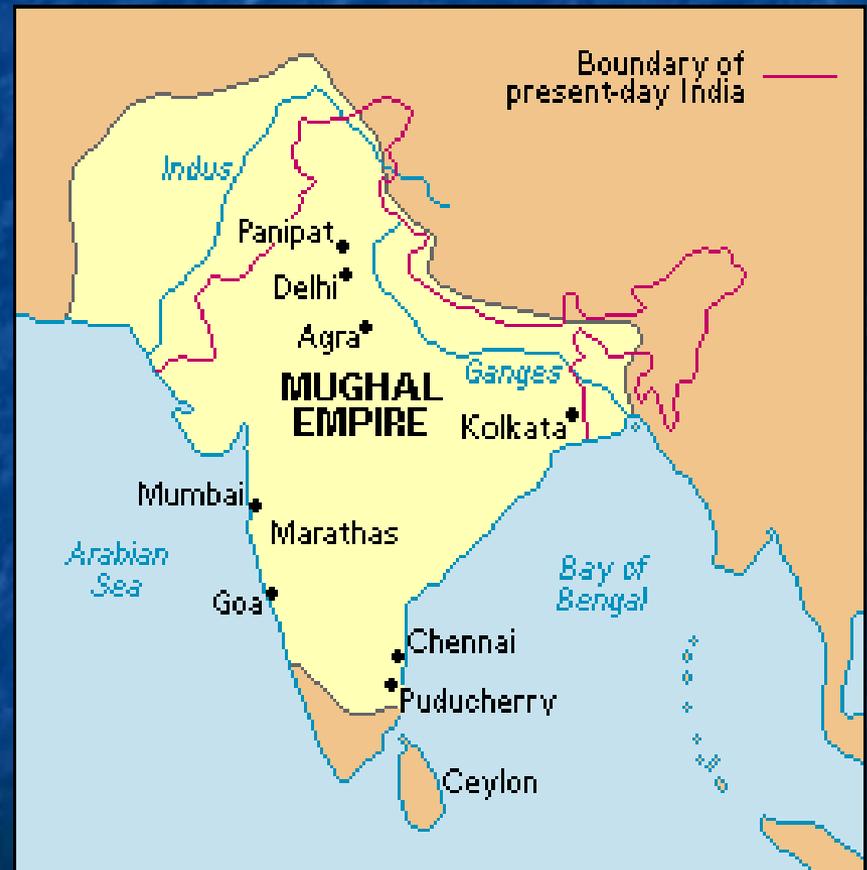
Mogul

- Aurangzeb took over from his father, Shah Jahan. He had his brother put to death.
- He was a devout Muslim and a man of high principle.
- He tried to eliminate many of the things he thought were social evils in India: suttee (a Hindu practice of cremating a widow on her husband's funeral pyre), levying illegal taxes, gambling, and drinking.
- He did not embrace religious tolerance – tried to get Hindu to convert to Islam – and this led to social unrest that made India open to attack from abroad.



Mogul

- The Mogul Empire spread from the Hindu Kush mountains east to the Bay of Bengal; from modern-day Afghanistan south to near the southern tip of India.
- The Moguls under Babur and Akbar were characterized by religious tolerance, toleration of political administration, and military superiority (use of artillery).



Moguls

- The British helped the decline of the Mogul Empire in India.
- Sir Robert Clive became the chief representative of the British East India Company.
- He was instrumental in getting the British East India control of Indian trade by taking Bengal. The B.E.I.C. could now tax the lands surrounding the city of Calcutta.
- The Indians practiced guerilla warfare against the British.
- The British moved inland. Trade brought money to the British. The British were in India to stay.



Moguls

- Women in the Mogul Empire had a complex life.
- Women had played a role in Mogul tribal society – warriors and advisors in political matters. They could own land and do business.
- They also had restrictions of Islamic law: isolation of women was practiced in upper class Hindu families.
- A lot of Hindu practices went unchanged by Mogul rule



Moguls

- The Moguls brought together Persian and Indian influences in art and architecture.
- The Taj Mahal is the greatest example of Mogul architecture.
- Akbar got Indian artist to use Persian and Indian motifs.
- The “Akbar style” included humans in action.
- He encouraged his artist to imitate European art forms, including perspective and lifelike portraits.
- He commissioned artist from Persia and Europe to come teach Indian artists.

