

## TS 2- The Mughal Dynasty:

### 1. Babur (1526-1530)

- grandson of Timur the lame, a Mongol from Turkey
- defeated Delhi ruler Ibrahim Lodhi in the first battle of Panipat.
- His mother's family was connected with "Mongols" so the dynasty came to be known as "Mughal" a Persian word for Mongol.
- Defeated Ibrahim Lodhi the ruler of Delhi in 1525 in the first battle of Panipat using excellent horsemen and guns.
- Resisted by Rajput Rana Sangha who lost to Babar's soldiers and guns. Babar extended his kingdom from Afghanistan to Bihar.

### 2.Humayun(1530-1556)

- Babar's son succeeded him after his death in 1530.
- Expanded Babar's kingdom but lost to Sher Shah of Bihar and had to flee in 1540 to Sindh. Returned to defeat Sher Shah in 1555

### 3. Akbar the Great(1556-1605)

- Inherited the kingdom at the age of 13 after death of his father Humayun.
- With the help of Bairam Khan fought and won many battles(Panipat. Delhi and Agra)
- Credited with many innovations during his 40 yrs of reign
- Appointed **Military Governors** in charge of many regions, each one responsible for provincial military( similar to present day state govt.)
- **Liberal Muslim** who allowed non-muslims to practice their religion. Allowed Hindus to practice their own law instead of Muslim law. Eliminated "**Jizya**" tax for non-muslims and "**pilgrimage tax**" for Hindu pilgrims. Founded moderate religion of **Din-i-Ilahi(the religion of God) which combined principles of Islam, Hinduism, Jainism and Christianity.**
- Included people of many other religions in administrative decision making. Some prominent people in his court- Birbal the wise, Tansen the great singer, Abul Fazl his spiritual advisor.
- Fought many wars with the Rajputs. Tried to create alliance by marrying a Rajput princess " Jodhabai" mother of Akbar's successor- Jahangir.

#### **4. Jahangir( 1605-1627):**

- Spread the Mughal Rule over east India.
- Patron of arts: painting, architecture, philosophy and literature
- Jahangir's tenure is considered the richest period in the Mughal empire.

#### **5. Shah Jahan (1628-1658):**

- Moved capital from Agra to Delhi
- Credited with many architectural projects in Delhi like the Red Fort, Peacock Throne and one of the 7 wonders of the world- Taj Mahal built in the memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal.

#### **6. Aurangzeb: (1659-1707):**

- Took over the throne in 1658 by executing his older brothers and imprisoning his father.
- Ruled for the longest time from 1658-1707 and expanded Mughal empire to its greatest limits
- Staunch Muslim who reversed all the concessions given by Akbar the Great -reinstated Shria( Muslim Law) and Jizya tax for non Muslims.
- Repeated fought with the Marathas and Sikhs but never was able to conquer them. He was considered the last successful Mughal leader.
- Mughal empire started to crumble after Aurangzeb and Bahdur shah II the last Mughal emperor was deposed by the British in 1858.