










Architecture of the Mughal Period (1556-1628 CE)

5.1 Do you know

| Description | Image | Source |
|---|--|--------|
| <p>A universal Indian style of Islamic architecture emerged during the rule of the Mughals</p> | | |
| <p>During the short rule of Babur of four years and his son Humayun's ten-years, we find mentions of Baburi mosque in Panipat, Jami mosque at Sambhal and Baburi mosque in Ayodhya, UP, Humayun's mosque at Fatehabad in present Haryana do not represent any distinct architectural genre rather they have followed Sayyid-Lodi style.</p> | | |
| <p>The first monument in the real Mughal style is the tomb of Humayun constructed in 1569 by his widow. One of the most outstanding Muslim building in Delhi and first building in Indian sub- continent</p> |  | |
| <p>Almost similar in design to Humayun's tomb is tomb of Akbar's foster father Ataga Khan (d. 1562), constructed in 1566-67. It is of much smaller dimension but the inlay work of multi-domed marbles and the low relief carvings of its façade are far richer and finer than those in Humayun's tomb.</p> |  | |
| <p>Standing on the bank of Yamuna, the Red Fort at Agra is the first major building project of Akbar. It is an irregular semi-circular in plan and its massive walls are of concrete and rubble inside faced entirely with dressed red sandstone. The only building of Akbar's time preserved within this fort is Jahangiri Mahal</p> |  | |
| <p>The most spectacular building activities of Akbar's reign took place at Fatehpur Sikri, about 36 kilometres from Agra where a large number of impressive buildings were constructed during 1569-71 AD and enjoyed the status of capital city till 1585.</p> |  | |

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| <p>Among the religious buildings of Sikri, the most impressive and remarkable is the Jami Mosque (1571-72) with its lofty gateway on south called Buland Darwaza</p> |  | |
| <p>The tomb of Shaikh Salim Chisti is very small compare to Buland Darwaza but it is a very beautiful building of white marble.</p> |  | |
| <p>The first monument to be mentioned constructed during Jahangir's reign is the tomb of Akbar (1612-13) at Sikandra near Agra</p> |  | |
| <p>The tomb of Itimadud-Daula (1626) at Agra in Uttar Pradesh is yet another master piece of Jahangir's period</p> |  | |
| <p>The tomb of Abdur-Rahim Khan-i-Khanan is interesting in that it constitutes a significant link between the tomb of Humayun and the Taj Mahal.</p> |  | |

Among other monuments belonging to this period is the mausoleum of Jahangir himself at Shahdara near Lahore it is situated, like the tomb of Akbar, in the centre of a large garden and is a square single-storeyed structure standing on a low plinth.



5.2 Timeline

| Timelines | Image | Description |
|-----------|---|------------------------------------|
| 1526 |  | Babur established the Mughal rule |
| 1569 |  | Humayun's tomb was constructed |
| 1566-67 |  | Tomb of Ataga Khan was constructed |
| 1569-71 |  | Construction of Fatehpur Sikri |

| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| 1571-72 |  | Jame mosque was constructed within Fatehpur Sikri |
| 1601 |  | Bulanddarwaza was built by akbar to commemorate the victory of Gujarat |
| 1612-13 |  | Tomb of Akbar, Sikandra was constructed |
| 1597 |  | Palace complex of Rohtasgarh was constructed |
| 1616 |  | Tomb of Makhdum Shah Daulat |

5.3 Glossary

| Starting Character | Term | Definition | Related Term |
|--------------------|--------------|---|--------------|
| A | Alcove | A recess in the wall of a room or garden. | |
| | Arcaded | An arcade is a succession of arches, each counter-thrusting the next, supported by columns, piers, or a covered walkway enclosed by a line of such arches on one or both sides. | |
| | Arcuate | Shaped like a bow; curved | |
| B | Bulbous dome | Bulbous dome is a dome whose shape resembles an onion. | Onion |

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|---|--------------------|---|------------|
| | | Such domes are often larger in diameter than the drum upon which they sit, and their height usually exceeds their width. These bulbous structures taper smoothly to a point. | dome |
| C | Charbagh | Charbagh or Chahar Bagh is a Persian and Islamic quadrilateral garden layout based on the four gardens of Paradise mentioned in the Qur'an. The quadrilateral garden is divided by walkways or flowing water into four smaller parts. Mughals introduced these type of gardens in India | |
| | Chhatri | A domed kiosk built on pillars used extensively in Mughal architecture on the tops of palaces, mosques and tombs. In Mughal architecture a chatri was decorative, while in Hindu architecture, which is where it is derived from, it was used as a cenotaph. | |
| D | Daftar Khana | Record room | |
| | Diwan-i-Aam | Hall of audience | |
| | Diwan-i-Khas | Happ of private audience | |
| F | Four centered arch | A four-centred arch, also known as a depressed arch, is a low, wide type of arch with a pointed apex. It is much wider than its height and gives the visual effect of having been flattened under pressure. | Tudor arch |
| J | Jali work | Tracery | |
| | Jami mosque | Jamimosque refers to the main mosque of a town, city or village, and is usually the place of gathering for Eid prayers and Friday prayers. These are sometimes called Congregational mosques or Friday mosques. | |
| P | Pendentive | a curved triangle of vaulting formed by the intersection of a dome with its supporting arches. | |
| | <i>Pietra dura</i> | pictorial mosaic work using semi-precious stones, typically for table tops and other furniture. | |
| T | Trabeate | In architecture, a post-and-lintel or trabeate system refers to the use of horizontal beams or lintels which are borne up by columns or posts. | |
| V | Vault | Vault is an architectural term for an arched form used to provide a space with a ceiling or roof. The parts of a vault exert lateral thrust that requires a counter resistance. | |

5.4 Web links

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| Web links |
| https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mughal_Empire |

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mughal_architecture

<https://islamicart.com/library/empires/india/humayun.html>

<https://www.britannica.com/art/Akbar-period-architecture>

<https://islamicart.com/library/empires/india/jahangir.html>

5.5 Bibliography

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