

# Ch 4 The Mughal Empire

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Let's recall

1. Match the following:

mansab	Marwar
Mongol	governor
Sisodiya Rajput	Uzbek
Rathor Rajput	Mewar
Nur Jahan	rank
subadar	Jahangir

Answer

mansab	rank
Mongol	Uzbek
Sisodiya Rajput	Mewar
Rathor Rajput	Marwar
Nur Jahan	Jahangir
subadar	governor

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2. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) The capital of Mirza Hakim, Akbar's half-brother, was \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) The five Deccan Sultanates were Berar, Khandesh, Ahmadnagar, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- (c) If zat determined a mansabdar's rank and salary, sawar indicated his \_\_\_\_\_.
- (d) Abul Fazl, Akbar's friend and counsellor, helped him frame the idea of \_\_\_\_\_ so that he could govern a society composed of many religions, cultures and castes.

Answer

- (a) The capital of Mirza Hakim, Akbar's half-brother, was Kabul.
- (b) The five Deccan Sultanates were Berar, Khandesh, Ahmadnagar, Bijapur and Golconda.
- (c) If zat determined a mansabdar's rank and salary, sawar indicated his number of cavalrymen.
- (d) Abul Fazl, Akbar's friend and counselor, helped him frame the idea of sulh-i kul so that he

could govern a society composed of many religions, cultures and castes.

3. What were the central provinces under the control of the Mughals?

Answer

The central provinces under the control of the Mughals were:

- (i) Lahore
- (ii) Panipat
- (iii) Delhi
- (iv) Mathura
- (v) Agra
- (vi) Ajmer
- (vii) Marwar
- (viii) Mewar
- (ix) Deccan
- (x) Chittor

#### 4. What was the relationship between the mansabdar and the jagir?

##### **Answer**

Mansabdars received their salaries as revenue assignments called jagirs. Mansabdars did not actually reside in or administer their jagirs. They served in some other part of the country while the revenue was collected for them by their servants.

##### **Let's understand**

#### 5. What was the role of the zamindar in Mughal administration?

##### **Answer**

Role of the zamindar in Mughal administration:

- (i) Zamindars were local headmen of villages or powerful chieftains appointed by the Mughal emperor.
- (ii) They played a role of source in running of the administration of the Mughals.
- (iii) They collected tax on the produce of the peasantry which was the main source of income available to Mughal rulers.
- (iv) In some areas the zamindars exercised a great deal of power and sometimes zamindars and peasants of the same caste allied in rebelling against Mughal authority.

#### 6. How were the debates with religious scholars important in the formation of Akbar's ideas on governance?

##### **Answer**

- (i) Akbar's interaction with people of different faiths made him realise that religious scholars who emphasised ritual and dogma were often bigots.
- (ii) The teachings by different religious scholars created divisions and disharmony amongst his subjects.
- (iii) This led to the idea of sulh-i kul or "universal peace" which means tolerance and not to discriminate between people of different religions in his realm.
- (iv) They framed a vision of governance around the idea of sulh-i kul focused on a system of ethics honesty, justice, peace which was universally applicable.
- (v) This system of governance was later followed by Jahangir and Shah Jahan as well.