A. Predicting Outcomes  As you read about the Mughal Empire, make notes in the chart to describe the outcome of each action listed.

1. Babur leads troops to victories over an army led by the sultan of Delhi and the Rajput army.

2. Akbar governs through a bureaucracy of officials in which natives and foreigners, both Hindus and Muslims, can rise to high office.

3. Akbar prohibits inheritance of land granted to bureaucrats.

4. Akbar appoints rajputs as officers in Mughal army.

5. Akbar practices cultural blending.

6. The Sikhs defend Khusrau in his rebellion against his father, Jahangir.

7. Shah Jahan orders the building of the Taj Mahal.

8. Aurangzeb strictly enforces Islamic laws and reinstates tax on non-Muslims.


B. Recognizing Main Ideas  On the back of this paper, identify the Mughals and describe their cultural legacy.
In 1498 the Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama was the first European to reach India by sea. In contrast to most outsiders reaching India, he was interested only in the country’s natural resources, not in conquering territory. Da Gama landed at Calicut, the richest of several Indian port cities. He was totally unprepared, however, to encounter shops and warehouses stocked with such items as cotton textiles and diamonds. Europeans had underrated India’s sophistication. Da Gama had brought as gifts to his Indian hosts only striped cloths, hats, strips of coral, sugar, oil, and honey. These items had impressed the African kings he had met but now were considered an insult to the lord of Calicut. The gifts were refused. Da Gama was told that his presents should have been made of gold.

The failure of the Portuguese to offer the proper respect angered the Mughals, and so da Gama returned home only with stories of what he’d seen—and some spices he had bought himself. The spices, however, were sold in Europe at 27 times their cost, and the scramble for Indian products was under way. Pepper became the most desired of India’s spices. Indian dyes were sought everywhere. Most popular of all were textiles—especially rugs—as weaving had been done in India for centuries.

During the 1500s Portuguese traders controlled sea routes to India and seized several trading forts along the Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal. However, the Portuguese traders eventually lost their Indian strongholds to the Dutch, who took over trading posts in Colombo in 1641, Negapatam in 1658, and Cochin in 1663. Soon thereafter French and English traders took over Dutch trading claims. Mughal rulers were still relatively strong during these years, and they never permitted Europeans to capture anything more than an economic foothold on the subcontinent. That power ended when Aurangzeb’s death broke up the Mughals’ central state.
Interpreting Text and Visuals

1. On which coast of India were most of the European trading posts located? ____________

2. What were the main products of the Bengal region of India at this time? _______________

3. What is the only product found in both the northern and southern regions? ____________

4. What was the sole major product of Ceylon, which is modern Sri Lanka? ______________

5. From which country did Vasco da Gama come and where in India did he land? __________

6. Look at the product symbols for the Afghanistan and Kashmir regions of India. What was the main economic activity in those regions? ___________________________________________________________________

7. What was Europe’s most desired Indian spice and where did it come from? ____________

8. Explain why the export of carpets, woolens, most dyes, and gold from India to Europe was probably more difficult than that of the other products found on the map. ______________

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
Akbar, who ruled the Mughal Empire for nearly 50 years, was remarkable for his attempts to promote religious tolerance. By demonstrating acceptance of many religions, he hoped to establish peace between his Muslim and Hindu subjects. Father Antonio Monserrate, a Catholic missionary from Portugal, visited Akbar's court for a few years. Think about Father Monserrate's impressions of Akbar as you read his firsthand account.

This Prince [Akbar] is of a stature and of a type of countenance well-fitted to his royal dignity, so that one could easily recognize, even at the first glance, that he is the King. He has broad shoulders, somewhat bandy legs well-suited for horsemanship, and a light-brown complexion. He carries his head bent towards the right shoulder. His forehead is broad and open, his eyes so bright and flashing that they seem like a sea shimmering in the sunlight. . . . Contrary to the custom of his race he does not cut his hair; nor does he wear a hat, but a turban, into which he gathers up his hair. He does this, they say, as a concession to Indian usages, and to please his Indian subjects. He limps in his left leg, though indeed he has never received any injury there. His body is exceedingly well-built and is neither too thin nor too stout. He is sturdy, hearty and robust. When he laughs, his face becomes almost distorted. His expression is tranquil, serene and open, full also of dignity, and when he is angry, of awful majesty. . . . It is hard to exaggerate how accessible he makes himself to all who wish audience of him. For he creates an opportunity almost every day for any of the common people or of the nobles to see him and converse with him; and he endeavours to show himself pleasant-spoken and affable rather than severe toward all who come to speak with him. It is very remarkable how great an effect this courtesy and affability has in attaching to him the minds of his subjects. For in spite of his very heterodox [against accepted beliefs of a particular religion] attitude towards the religion of Muhammad, and in spite also of the fact that Musalmans [muslims] regard such an attitude as an unforgivable offence, . . . Akbar . . . has not yet been assassinated. He has an acute insight, and shows much wise foresight both in avoiding dangers and in seizing favourable opportunities for carrying out his designs. Yet all these fine qualities both of body and mind lose the greater part of their splendour because the lustre of the True Faith is lacking. . . . He is a great patron of learning, and always keeps around him erudite men, who are directed to discuss before him philosophy, theology, and religion, and to recount to him the history of great kings and glorious deeds of the past. He has an excellent judgment and a good memory, and has attained to a considerable knowledge of many subjects by means of constant and patient listening to such discussions. Thus he . . . makes up for his ignorance of letters (for he is entirely unable either to read or write). . . . He can give his opinion on any question so shrewdly and keenly, that no one who did not know that he is illiterate would suppose him to be anything but very learned and erudite. . . .


Discussion Questions

Recognizing Facts and Details
1. According to Father Monserrate, what did Akbar look like?
2. How did Akbar treat his subjects when they came to his court?
3. Distinguishing Fact from Nonfact Do you feel that Father Monserrate wrote about Akbar in an objective manner? Give examples from the passage to support your answer.
PRIMARY SOURCE  

Jahangir’s Birthday  
by Sir Thomas Roe

Sir Thomas Roe served as the English ambassador to the Mughal Empire during Jahangir’s reign. In one of his reports he described Jahangir’s birthday celebration. As you read this excerpt, keep in mind that the ambassador’s report was written in 17th-century English and reflects sentence structure, capitalization, and spellings that were common at the time. For example, notice that Roe capitalized common nouns such as garden and gold and added an I to beautiful and an e to beam.

The first of September, was the Kings birth-day, and the solemnitie of his weighing, to which I went, and was carried into a very large and beauti-full Garden, the square within all water, on the sides flowres and trees, in the midst a pinnacle, where was prepared the scales, being hung in large tressels, and a crosse beame plated on with gold thinne: the scales of massie gold, the borders set with small stones, Rubies and Turkey, the chains of gold large and massie, but strengthened with silke Cords. Here attended the Nobilitie all sitting about it on Carpets untill the King came; who at last appeared clothed, or rather loden with Diamonds, Rubies, Pearles, and other precious vanities, so great, so glorious! his Sword, Target, Throne to rest on correspondent; his head, necke, breast, armes, above the elbowes at the wrists, his fingers every one, with at least two or three rings; fettered with chaines, or dialled Diamonds; Rubies as great as Wall-nuts, some greater; and Pearles, such as mine eyes were amazed at. Suddenly he entered into the scales, sate like a woman on her legs, and there was put in against him, many bagges to fit his weight which were changed sixe times, and they say was silver, and that I understood his weight to be nine thousand Rupias, which was almost one thousand pound sterling: after with gold and jewels, and precious stones, but I saw none, it being in bagges might bee pebbles; then against cloth of Gold, Silke, Stufles, Linnen, Spices, and all sorts of goods, but I must beleve, for they were in fardles [bundles]. Lastly, against Meale, Butter, Corne, which is said to be given to the Beniani, and all the rest of the Stuffe: but I saw it carefully carried in, and none distributed. Onely the silver is reserved for the poore, and serves the ensuing yeere, the King using in the night to call for some before him, and with his owne hands in great familiaritie and humilitie to distribute that money. The scale he sate in by one side; he gazed on me, and turned me his stones and wealth, and smiled, but spake nothing, for my Interpreter could not bee admitted in. After he was weighed, he ascended his Throne, and had Basons of Nuts, Almonds, Fruits, Spices, of all sort made in thin silver, which hee cast about, and his great men scrambled prostrate upon their bellies, which seeing I did not, hee reached one basin almost full, and powred into my Cloke, his Noblemen were so bold as to put in their hands, so thicke, that they had left me none, if I had not put a remayner up. I heard he threw gold till I came in, but found it silver so thinne, that all I had at first being thousands of several pieces had not weighed sixtie Rupias. I saved about twentie Rupias weight, yet a good dishfull, which I keepe to shew the ostentation, for by my proportion he could not that day cast away above one hundred pound sterling. At night he drinketh with all his Nobilitie in rich plate.


Activity Options

1. **Using English Correctly** Work with a small group of classmates to rewrite a portion of Roe’s report using modern English. Share the modernized version of the report with the class and discuss how Jahangir celebrated his birthday.

2. **Describing Setting** Use details in Roe’s report to visualize Jahangir’s birthday celebration. Then create an appropriate illustration to show what happened. Display your illustration in the classroom.
Shah Jahan adored jewels, buildings, and his second wife. He left a rich legacy of beautiful art. However, these indulgences hid many severe problems of the Mughal Empire during his reign and after.

Born as Prince Khurram in 1592 in Lahore, India, Shah Jahan was the son of Emperor Jahangir. At 15, Khurram saw his brother's rebellion against his father fail. Khurram, though, won his father's favor by defeating several neighboring powers. After one such defeat, his father renamed him Shah Jahan, meaning “King of the World.”

Political intrigue poisoned the palace. The empress Nur Jahan, who had at first supported Shah Jahan, now turned to another of his brothers. She had Shah Jahan sent on a military campaign, hoping that she could reduce his influence at court. However, Jahangir soon grew sick and was near death. Hearing the news, Shah Jahan immediately removed one threat to the throne by killing his brother. The armies of Nur Jahan and Shah Jahan then spent the next three years chasing each other across India. Finally, in 1628 Jahangir died, and Shah Jahan became emperor. He was helped this time by Nur Jahan's brother, who happened to be his own father-in-law.

To celebrate the event, Shah Jahan built a magnificent throne of jewels called the Peacock Throne. It had four legs of gold and 12 pillars of emeralds supporting an emerald canopy. On top of each pillar sat two peacocks and a tree covered with jewels.

Early in his rule, Shah Jahan expanded the empire to the south. He also ordered that all Hindu temples should be destroyed. Although three of his grandparents had been Hindus and the majority of the population was Hindu, he publicly supported Islam. Ironically, he relied on Hindu advisers throughout his reign. He also ordered an attack on a Portuguese settlement near Calcutta and had several thousand Portuguese Christians put to death.

In all matters, Shah Jahan worked closely with his wife Mumtaz Mahal. She bore him 14 children and was an important adviser. In 1631, she died, and Shah Jahan went into severe mourning. During this time his hair turned white, and he vowed to renounce worldly pleasures. He decided, instead, to build her a magnificent tomb. The result was the Taj Mahal, one of the most famous buildings in the world. The tomb is decorated with words from the Qur'an, with letters sized according to their distance from the ground. As a result, those letters 30 feet above surface level seem to be the same size as those only a foot above the floor. He also built the Pearl Mosque and had workers construct an entire new capital at Delhi, which held the famous Red Fort.

The glittering jewels and spectacular buildings drained the treasury, however. Another problem was constant warfare in the south and against Persia in the west. Rather than cutting back on spending, Shah Jahan simply placed harsher taxes on the backs of the Indian people.

Late in his rule, Shah Jahan was plagued by the same political infighting that he had seen in his youth. His four sons each tried to secure for themselves the right to rule. His son Aurangzeb replayed Shah Jahan's own successful rise to power. In 1658, he defeated his other brothers and took the crown. His father, the once magnificent Shah Jahan, lived the remaining eight years under comfortable house arrest.

Questions
1. Drawing Conclusions How were Shah Jahan’s actions toward Hinduism contradictory?
2. Making Inferences Why do you think Shah Jahan had the Peacock Throne built? What purpose could it serve a ruler?
3. Recognizing Facts and Details What problems did Shah Jahan leave behind him?
CONNECTIONS ACROSS TIME AND CULTURES

How to Treat the Conquered

In the “Interact with History” introduction to this chapter, you were asked this question: “How do you govern a diverse empire?” Throughout the history of empire building, the conquerors have interacted with the conquered in different ways. Some rulers have viewed the people they conquered as enemies to be strictly controlled through oppression and fear; others have viewed them as assets to be integrated into society. What have been the outcomes of each policy? To find out, answer the questions that follow.

1. In Chapter 6, you learned how the Romans treated people they conquered. Near neighbors were given full citizenship, other more distant peoples gained citizenship rights except the right to vote, and the more distant countries became self-governing allies who supplied troops to Rome.

   a. How did this policy affect the expansion of Roman rule? ______________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

   b. How does the Roman plan compare to Mehmed II’s policy after the Ottoman Empire conquered Constantinople? ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

2. In Chapter 7, you learned about the Mauryan Empire. Asoka, who became king in the third century B.C., practiced religious toleration and a policy of nonviolence. He issued edicts guaranteeing fair and humane treatment of all his subjects. How did his policy compare with Akbar’s policy toward his subjects? __________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________________

3. Asoka’s policies failed to hold his empire together. After his death, a period of turmoil followed as regional kings challenged the imperial government.

   a. How did Akbar’s policies affect the Mughal Empire? __________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

   b. What change did his successors make? ____________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

   c. What were the consequences? ____________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________

4. How might a ruler benefit from a policy of leniency toward conquered peoples? ____________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________________

5. What methods have empire builders used to integrate conquered peoples of differing cultures into their society? ____________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________________________
Reteaching Activity

The Mughal Empire in India

Section 3

Determining Main Ideas

Choose the word that most accurately completes each sentence below. Write that word in the blank provided.

rajputs  Akbar  Mughals  Aurangzeb
Sikhs  Babur  Taj Mahal  Shah Jahan

1. A Mughal leader named _____________, or “Greatest One,” saw the military power of his empire as his source of strength.

2. The memorial built by Shah Jahan to memorialize his wife Mumtaz Mahal is called the ________________.

3. _____________, which means “Mongols,” were descendants of Muslim Turks and Afghans.

4. An 11-year-old boy named _____________ invaded India and laid the groundwork for the Mughal Empire.

5. The leaders of small kingdoms in northwestern India were called _____________, or “sons of kings.”

6. A leader called _____________ secured his position as ruler by assassinating all opposition.

7. The _____________ was a nonviolent religious group who became the focus of the Mughals’ hatred for defending Jahangir’s son Khusrau.

8. _____________ was the third son of Shah Jahan, and gained power after a civil war in which he executed his older brother and imprisoned his own father.