

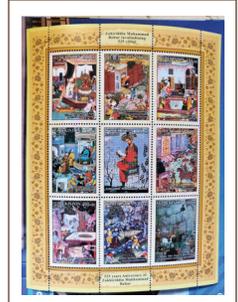
Remembering India's Magnificent Mughals

Where does the word Mogul, that signifies an important person in movies, media or real estate, come from? It comes from Mughals, who ruled India for long 350 years from 1526 till 1857. It was Babur (meaning "Panther") from present day Uzbekistan who built the Mughal Empire.

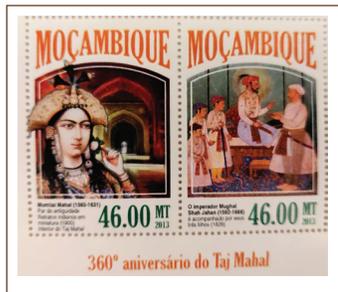
Babur was a direct descendant of the Central Asian Turkish conqueror Timur on the paternal side and Genghis Khan of Mongolia on the maternal side. He proudly identified himself as a Chaghtai, descending from Chengis Khan's son Chagta. Babur wrote his autobiography named as Baburnama



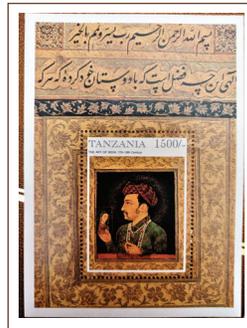
Genghis Khan of Mongolia



Baburnama



Shah Jahan



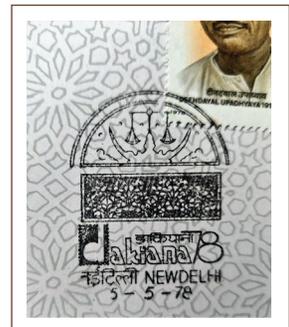
Jahangir Holding a Picture of Madonna

The major Mughal emperors were Babur (r. 1526-30), Humayun (r. 1530-56), Akbar (r. 1556-1605), Jahangir (r. 1605-27), Shah Jahan (r. 1627-58) and Aurangzeb (r. 1658-1707). The last Mughal emperor was Bahadur Shah Zafar (r. 1837-1857) whom the British defeated and exiled to Rangoon, now Yangon, where he died few years later.

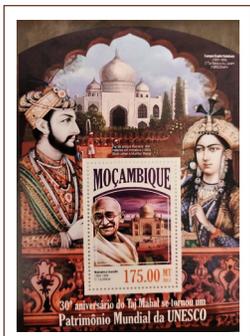


Agra Fort

Shah Jahan built the famous Taj Mahal in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal. He also built Delhi's Red Fort, while Akbar built the Agra Fort. In Delhi's Red Fort, we can see a symbol of scales signifying the Scales of Justice and a wall inscription saying: 'If there is a paradise on the face of the earth, it is this, it is this, O it is this!'



Scales of Justice



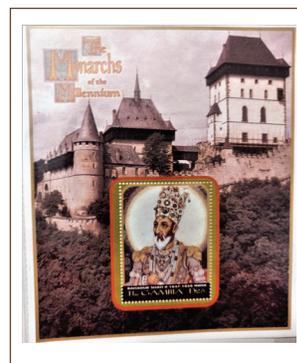
Shah Jahan, Mumtaz Mahal & Taj Mahal.



"If there is a paradise on the face of the earth, it is this, it is this, O it is this!"



The last Mughal emperor Zafar was a poet, one of his famous verses being: "My heart has no repose in this despoiled land; Who has ever felt fulfilled in this futile world?"



last Mughal emperor Zafar



"My heart has no repose in this despoiled land; Who has ever felt fulfilled in this futile world?"