



## Mughal Decline and Rise of Regional States

The death of Aurangzeb, the mighty Mughal emperor, in 1707 is generally regarded as the beginning of the gradual decline of the powerful Mughal empire. Incompetent later mughals could not stop the emergence of regional power centres.

### Later Mughals

#### **Bahadur Shah I (AD 1707-1712)**

- After the death of Aurangzeb in 1707, a war of succession started amongst his three surviving sons namely Bahadur Shah I (Governor of Kabul) Azam (Governor of Gujarat) and Kam Baksh (Governor of Bijapur).
- Bahadur Shah-I killed his two brothers, defeated Kam Baksh in the **Battle of Jajau** 1707. He released **Sahu**, (the son of Sambhaji) and recognised the independence of **Mewar** and **Marwar**.
- Khafi Khan has called him as **Shah-i-Bekhabar**, since he liked to appease all the parties by grants of titles and rewards. He made peace with Guru Gobind Singh and Raja Chhatrasal. He granted the Marathas, the right to collect Sardesh Mukhi of the Deccan, but not Chauth. He led an unsuccessful campaign against **Banda Bahadur** (Laxman Das). He died during the course of this campaign. Thus, Banda Bahadur was able to create the first Sikh capital at Lohgarh Fort.

- A Dutch Representative Committee under the leadership of **Joshua Ketelar** visited his court in AD 1711. His death in AD 1712 was followed by a fresh war of succession among his four sons—Jahandar Shah, Azim-us-Shah, Rafi-us-Shah and Jahan Shah.

### **Jahandar Shah (AD 1712-1713)**

- He captured the throne, after liquidating his three brothers, with the help of **Zulfikar Khan**.
- Zulfikar Khan acted as the de-facto ruler. This was infact the beginning of the practice of nobles acting as the king makers. He was dominated by his mistress **Lai Kunwar**, who is said to have imitated the style of Nur Jahan. He gave the title of Mirza Raja to Jai Singh of Malwa and Maharaja to Ajit Singh of Marwar.
- He granted the Marathas, the Chauth and Sardeshmukhi of Deccan, but it had to be collected by Mughal officer and then handed over to the Maratha officals. Encouraged **ijara** or the revenue farming/contract farming and abolished Jaziya. He was the first Mughal emperor to be killed in captivity by the two Sayyed brothers—Abdullah Khan and Hussain Ali.

### **Farrukh Siyar (AD 1713-1719)**

- He was son of Azim-us-Shah also known as **Sahid-i-Mazlum**. He appointed Abdulla Khan as Wazir and Hussain Ali as Mir Bakshi.
- He appointed **Chin Quilch Khan**, better known as **Nizam-ul-Mulk**, as the provincial Governor of Deccan. Khan later laid the foundation of an independent state of Hyderabad in October 1724. He commissioned Raja Jai Singh Sawai of Amber to lead an expedition against the Jats.
- The Sikh leader Banda Bahadur was taken prisoner at Gurdaspur and later executed at Delhi on 19th June, 1716.
- The ascendancy of the Sayyed brothers excited the jealousy of Farrukh Siyar who attempted to get rid of them. But the Sayyed brothers

punished the emperor by deposing and executing him in a horrible way, in April 1719.

- Peshwa Balaji Vishwanath visited the emperor's court asking for the right to collect Chauth and Sardesh Mukhi on Maratha land.
- Farrukh Siyar gave the English East India Company a firman granting trade privileges in India.

### **Mohammed Shah (AD 1719-1748)**

- He was grandson of Bahadur Shah. The real name of the king was **Raushan Akhtar**. He remained under the influence of Sayyed brothers, queen Qudsiya Begum (**Udham Bai**) and foster sister Koki Jiu during the initial years of his reign. With the help of Chin Qulich Khan, he killed Sayyed brothers in AD 1720. He was the most pleasure loving ruler and was therefore called **Rangeela**.
- Marathas under Baji Rao I raided surroundings of Delhi in March 1737 for the first time.
- **Nadir Shah of Persia** (The Napoleon of Iran) invaded India in 1739 with the help of Sadat Khan and defeated Mughal army in the Battle of Karnal. He took away the peacock throne of Shah Jahan and Kohinoor diamond from Delhi.
- Sadat Ali Khan (Governor of Awadh), Murshid Kuli Khan {Governor of Bengal) and the Rohillas in the Ganges valley declared their independence.

### **Ahmed Shah (AD 1748-1754)**

- His reign saw the first invasion of **Ahmed Shah Abdali**, the ruler of Afghanistan and the former General of Nadir Shah, who attacked India five times between 1748 to 1767, which culminated in the **Third Battle of Panipat**. His Wazir Ghulam Qadir blinded him and placed Alamgir II on the throne.

### **Alamgir II (AD 1754-1759)**

- He is also known as **Aziz-ud-din**. **Battle of Plassey**, 1757 took place during his reign. He was killed in 1759 by his wazir Imad-ul-Mulk and **Shah Jahan II** was placed on throne, who was soon replaced by Shah Alam II.

### **Shah Alam II (AD 1759- 1806)**

- He **is** also known as **AM Gauhar**. He was defeated in the **Battle of Buxar** in 1764. The **Third Battle of Panipat** (1761) was fought in this period.
- In AD 1772, **Mahaji Scindia** helped the emperor to get back the throne.
- In 1803, English under the command of **Lord Lake** captured Delhi. Till then, it was under the control of Marathas.
- According to Allahabad treaty of 1765, Shah Alam II granted the diwani rights of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa to the British after the Battle of Buxar.
- Shah Alam II was the first Mughal emperor to become **pensioner** of East India Company. He died in AD 1806.

### **Akbar II (AD 1806 -1837)**

- Lord Hastings asked him to give away all ceremonial power and titles proclaimed by Mughal emperor.
- The circulation of Mughal coins was stopped in 1835. He conferred the title of Raja on Rammohan Roy and requested him to go to England to plead for a hike in the emperors pension.

### **Bahadur Shah II (AD 1837-1862)**

- Bahadur Shah participated in 1857 revolt. Following the revolt, the British tried and executed him to Rangoon in Burma.
- He died in AD 1862 at Rangoon.

- He was an Urdu poet and having pet name **Zafar**. He also patronised **Mirza Ghalib** and gave him the Jagir of 'Loharu'.

### **Causes for the Decline of the Mughal Empire**

- Worthless and negligent late Mughal emperors.
- Absence of definite law of succession, leading to instability of government and growth of partisanship at cost of patriotism.
- A heterogeneous and non-hereditary nobility.
- Degeneration of nobility with factious feuds and intrigues.
- Jagirdari crisis and vast expansion of territory which made it difficult for the weak rulers to control it.
- Revolt of Rajputs, Sikhs, Jats and Maratha's due to Aurangzeb's religious policy.
- Failure of Aurangzeb's Deccan Policy.
- Invasions of Nadir Shah and Ahmed Shah gave a death blow to Mughal empire.

### **Foreign Invasions**

#### **Nadir Shah**

- **Nadir Shah** of Persia captured Qandhar and eyed the Afghanistan territory on the Mughal border. The Mughal Subedar Nasir Khan without posing any resistance, he fled from Afghanistan.
- Nadir Shah entered Punjab through Peshawar. He met the royal Mughal army at **Kamal** on 13th February in 1739.
- The royal army's main contingent under the emperor Mohammed Shah and Nizam-ul-Mulk did not join the battle. As a result, the army under Sadat Khan, Khan-i-Dauran and Nasir Mohammed signed the treaty with Nadir Shah accepting to give Nadir Rs. 2 crore in lieu of protecting their territory.
- During his invasion, Nadir Shah entered Delhi on 20th March and ordered a general massacre, in which about 20000 citizens were killed. The property was ransacked and every part of the city was looted.

### **Ahmed Shah Abdali**

- Ahmed Shah Abdali, the successor of Nadir Shah launched his first invasion at Punjab in AD 1748. It was followed by another invasion in AD 1749, in which he defeated Moin-ul-Mulk, the Governor of Punjab.
- In AD 1752, Abdali invaded Punjab for the third time and fourth time in AD 1756. In the fourth invasion, he reached upto Delhi and looted Indian territory as far as Mathura and Agra. In course of all these invasions, he did not meet with any resistance.
- He invaded India for the sixth time in AD 1760 and regained Punjab. A fierce battle was fought on 14th January, 1761 between the Ahmed Shah Abdali and Marathas at Panipat. After initial success in what is known as the **Third Battle of Panipat**, the Marathas suffered a crushing defeat.

### **Kohlnoor Diamond**

After the Battle of Panipat, Babur ordered his son Humayun to secure the treasures at Agra, which had been the capital of the Lodhi dynasty since 1502. When Babur joined Humayun at Agra, Humayun presented him with a magnificent diamond. The Kohinoor was given to Humayun by the family of the **Raja of Gwalior**, whom he had given protection. Humayun later gave the diamond to Shah Tahmasp of Persia. The Shah sent it as a present to Nizam Shah in the Deccan. Somehow, the gem returned during the 17th century into the treasury of the Mughal emperor, **Shah Jahan**. When Nadir Shah plundered Delhi in 1739, he seized the diamond alongwith the other Mughal jewels and named it Koh-i-noor. The Kohinoor passed through several hands before finally resting in the **Tower of London**, where it remains on display even today.

### **Rise of Regional States**

- With the declining power of the Mughal empire in the 18th century, there emerged various autonomous states—Bengal under Murshid Quli Khan, Awadh under Sadat Khan, Burhan-ul- Mulk, Hyderabad under Nizam-ul Mulk Asaf Jah, Carnatic under Sadatullah Khan, Mysore under Hyder Ali, the Jats under Churaman and Surajmal and the Sikhs under Ranjit Singh etc.

## **The Bengal**

- After the death of Aurangzeb, Bengal became an independent viceroyalty for all practical purposes under Murshid Quli Khan.
- His de-facto rule from AD 1700 was, thus, made de jure in AD 1717, Murshid justified the confidence reposed in him by the efficient management, which raised Bengal to the highest degree of prosperity.

## **Murshid Quli Khan (AD 1717 -27)**

- He was granted the governorship of Orissa by the emperor Farrukh Siyar in AD 1719.
- He transferred his capital from Dacca to Murshidabad and gradually assumed autonomy, though continuing to profess theoretical allegiance to the Mughal emperor and to pay tribute as well as presents.
- He improved the financial position of the region by measures such as transfer of large parts of Jagir lands into khalisa (crown) lands, introduced the system of revenue farming etc.
- He regulated the prices of articles and forbade the hoarding of grains.
- He introduced reforms in agriculture such as grant of Taccavi loans to peasants for personal use.
- He brought about re-organisation of administration and establishment of law and order by suppressing the rebellious zamindars.

## **Shuja-ud-Din (AD 1727-1739)**

- He was the son-in-law of Murshid.
- He continued the policies and reforms of Murshid. His principal advisers in the matter of administration were **Rai-i-Rayan Alamchand** (an able financier) and **Jagat Seth** (the famous banker).
- He was also granted the governorship of Bihar by the emperor Mohammed Shah in AD 1733 (from this time onwards, the nawabs of Bengal ruled over Bengal, Bihar and Orissa). He appointed Alivardi Khan as the Naib Subedar of Bihar.

### **Sarfaraz Khan (AD 1739-1740)**

- He was the son of Shuja.
- He took the title of Alam-ud-Daula Haider Jung.
- He was defeated by Alivardi Khan, Governor of Bihar in the **Battle of Goriya** (AD 1740) and was murdered.

### **Alivardi Khan (AD 1740-1756)**

- He legalised his usurpation by receiving a farman from emperor Mohammed Shah after paying him Rs. 2 crore.
- He was opposed to the attempts of the English and French to strengthen their fortifications in **Calcutta** and **Chandernagore** respectively and compared them with 'Beehive'.
- He favoured and nominated **Siraj-ud-Daula** as his successor.

### **Siraj-ud-Daula (AD 1756 -1757)**

- He prohibited the English from fortifying their factories at Calcutta, but on their refusal to comply with his orders, he seized the English factory at **Kasimbazar** 4th June, 1756 and then Calcutta 15th June, 1756.
- Siraj defeated Shaukat Jung, Subedar of Purnia (Bihar) in **Battle of Manihari** (1756).
- The famous **Black Hole Tragedy**, in which more than 400 Englishmen died took place during his reign (20th to 21st June, 1756).
- On 9th February, 1757, he signed the 'Treaty of Alinagar' with company.

#### **Battle of Plassey**

Fought the Battle of Plassey with English forces on June 1757, this battle saw the treachery of Mir Jafar and Rai Durlabh; bravery of a small force under Mohanlal and Mir Madan; desertion of the Nawabs forces and escape of Siraj and his capture and execution by Miran (son of Mir Jafar).

### **Mir Jafar (AD 1757-1760)**

- He granted the right to free trade in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and the Zamindar of the 24 Paraganas to the British, besides paying them a sum of Rs. 17.7 million as compensation for the attack on Calcutta.
- He is also known as the **Jackal of Clive**.
- He made futile efforts to replace the English by the Dutch, but the Dutch were defeated by the English at Bedara in AD 1759.

### **Mir Qasim (AD 1760-1763)**

- He granted the zamindari of Burdwan, Midnapore and Chittagong to the British.
- He transferred his capital from Murshidabad to Munger (AD 1762).
- He stopped the misuse for the dastaks (free passes allowed to the Company) and abolished all duties on internal trade against British wishes in order to protect the Indian traders 1763.
- He appointed a German official **Walter Rin Hard** (Samru) for modernisation of army.
- Mir Qasim murdered Subedar Ramnarayan of Bihar and occupied the factory at Patna by defeating English officer, Ellis. Hence, in AD 1763, English announced Mir Jafar as the Nawab of Bengal and declared war against Mir Qasim.

### **Mir Jafar (AD 1763-1765)**

- His reinstatement in 1763 by the British took place after the outbreak of the war with Mir Qasim. He died in AD 1765.
- **Battle of Buxar** (22nd October, 1764) was fought between the British and three allies (Mir Qasim, Shuja-ud-Daula of Awadh and Shah Alam II). This battle ended in the defeat of the allies by the British forces under major Hector Munro.

### **Najm-ud-Daulah (AD 1765- 1772)**

- He was the son of Mir Jafar.
- He was made the Nawab in AD 1765 and remained a puppet in the hands of the British during the period of 'Dual System of Government' under Robert Clive.

### **The Awadh**

#### **Saadat Khan Burhan-ul-Mulk (AD 1722 -1739)**

- He founded the autonomous Awadh state in AD 1722.
- He was appointed as the Governor of Awadh by emperor Mohammed Shah.
- Through, his military reforms, he made Awadh economically and politically strong.
- He treated Hindus and Muslims equally in the matter of employment. The highest post of his government was held by Maharaja Nawab Rai.

#### **Safdar Jung/Abdul Mansur (AD 1739-1754)**

- He was the nephew and son-in-law of Saadat Khan.
- He led an expedition to Bihar and occupied Patna in AD 1742. He took part in the **Battle of Manpur** against Ahmed Shah Abdali (AD 1748). He was appointed as the Wazir of the Mughal empire and was granted the province of Allahabad as well, by the Mughal emperor Ahmed Shah in AD 1748.
- From AD 1748, the Nawab of Awadh came to be known as the **Nawab Wazir**, since, Safdar and his successors held both the 'Nawabship' of Awadh and the 'Wazirship' of the Mughal empire.

#### **Shuja-ud-Daula (AD 1754-1775)**

- He was the son of Safdar Jung. **Ali Gauhar** (Shah Alam), the heir apparent of the puppet Mughal emperor Alamgir II was provided protection at his court.

- He was driven out of Delhi by Turani Wazir, Imad-ul-Mulk. He was an ally of the Afghan invader Ahmed Shah Abdali.
- He concluded the **Treaty of Benaras** (AD 1773), with Warren Hastings whereby Kara and Allahabad were sold to the Nawab and British troops were stationed at Awadh to protect the Nawab, for which he had to pay a subsidy to the British.
- He defeated the Rohillas with the help of the British and annexed Rohilkhand to Awadh in AD 1774.

### **Asaf-ud-Daula (AD 1775-1797)**

- He signed the **Treaty of Faizabad** (AD 1755) with the British. He transferred his capital from Faizabad to Lucknow in AD 1775.
- He is also known for promoting Lucknow culture and built important monuments like Imambara and Rumi Darwaza.

### **Saadat Khan**

- He was elder brother of Asaf. He ascended the throne in AD 1798 with the help of the British.
- He signed a subsidiary treaty with Lord Wellesley in November AD 1801, by which the Nawab was deprived of about half of his territory for the maintenance of the subsidiary troops.

### **Wajid Ali Shah**

- He was also known as **Jaan-e-Alam** and **Akhtarpiya**. He was the last ruler of Awadh. During his period, Awadh was annexed by Lord Dalhousie in February AD 1856 on the pretext of mis-governance and he was pensioned off and deported to Calcutta.
- He promoted classical music and dance forms with performers like Kalka-Binda brothers in his court.

## **The Hyderabad**

### **Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah (AD 1724 1748)**

- He founded the autonomous State of Hyderabad in 1724. His first term as the Viceroy of the Deccan was between AD 1713 and AD 1715.
- His original name was Chinquilich Khan, but emperor Farrukh Siyar conferred on him the titles of Khan-i- Duran and later Nizam-ul-Mulk. His second term as the Viceroy of the Deccan fell between AD 1720 and AD 1722. He was appointed as a Wazir of the Mughal empire AD 1722-24 by Mohammed Shah.
- Mohammed Shah confirmed his Viceroyalty of Deccan and granted him the title of Asaf Jah in AD 1725. Though, virtually independent in Deccan, he continued to recognise the Mughal emperor as sovereign.
- He adopted tolerant policy towards the Hindus. Puran Chandra was appointed as his Dewan. He signed **Treaty of Bhopal** in 1738 with the Peshwas and acted as peace-maker in the **Battle of Karnal** in 1739.

### **Nasir Jung (AD 1748-1750)**

- He was defeated and murdered by Muzaffar Jung (son of Nasir's sister and grandson of Nizam-ul-Mulk).

### **Muzaffar Jung (AD 1750-1751)**

- He acceded to the throne with the help of the French. His rule came to an abrupt end with his accidental death.

### **Salabat Jung (AD 1751-1760)**

- He was the third son of Nizam-ul-Mulk.
- He came to the throne with the help of the French.
- Nizam Ali concluded **subsidiary treaty** with the English in AD 1798, thus, becoming the first state to do so.
- Nizams were great patron of art, culture and literature. They built **Salarjung Museum** in Hyderabad and **Chow Mahalla Palace**. It was in September 1948, with the efforts of SBV Patel that by **Operation**

**Polo**, Indian military was successful in merger of Hyderabad into the Indian Union.

### **The Mysore**

- Mysore became independent under the Hindu Wodeyar dynasty in 1565 after the fall of Vijayanagara empire. Between AD 1731 and 1734, the two brothers **Devaraja** and **Nanaraja** usurped the power in the state and became the de facto rulers. The state became a bone of contention between the Peshwa and Nizam. During the Second Carnatic War, Nanaraja allied with the English, to capture Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu), but later on, he shifted his allegiance from the English to the French.

### **Haider Ali (AD 1760-1782)**

- He started his career as a soldier in the service of the Mysore State, but was later promoted to the position of **commander in chief** and had a meritorious record as the **Faujdar of Dindigul**.
- He trained his troops on Western lines and established a modern arsenal (AD 1755) at Dindigul with French help.
- He defended Srirangapatnam (capital of Mysore) against the Marathas in AD 1759 and was rewarded by conferring the title of Fateh Haider Bahadur (brave victorious lion) on him by Nanaraja (the Prime Minister who was the de facto ruler though **Chikka Krishna Raja** continued to be the de jure ruler of Mysore).
- He allied with the French and the Nizam and gave a crushing defeat to the English in the **First Anglo-Mysore War** (AD 1767-1769) and forced them to conclude a humiliating treaty, **Treaty of Madras** in April 1769.
- In 1781, he was defeated by Eyre Coote in the **Battle of Portonovo**. He allied with the Marathas and the Nizam in the **Second Anglo-Mysore War** (AD 1780-84) and captured Arcot during the course of war and inflicted a very humiliating defeat on the English, again in AD 1782.

- He died on 7th December, 1782 during the course of the Second Anglo-Mysore war.

### **Tipu Sultan (AD 1782-1799)**

- He succeeded Haider Ali and in contrast to his father, he dethroned the Raja of Mysore and openly assumed the title of Sultan in AD 1786. He continued the **Second War with British** till AD 1784, when both the sides got tired and concluded peace by the **Treaty of Mangalore** March 1784 on the basis of mutual restitution of conquests.
- He defeated the coalition army of Marathas and Nizam.
- He fought the **Third Anglo-Mysore War** AD 1790-1792, in which the Marathas and Nizam allied with the British. He signed the **Treaty of Srirangapatnam** (March 1792) which led to the surrender of nearly half of the Mysore's territory to the victorious allies.
- The **Fourth Anglo-Mysore War** (AD 1799) ended in complete collapse of Tipu's power and he died fighting.
- Tipu organised the infantry on the European lines and made attempts to build a modern navy establishment of two dockyard.
- He appreciated the importance of economic strength as the foundation of military strength of his empire.
- He sent ambassadors to France, Turkey, Iran, Peru and to Zaman Shah of Afghanistan to develop foreign trade.
- He introduced a new system of coinage, new scales of weights and measures and a new calendar.
- Like his father he also issued coins with the images of Hindu deities. He had great regards for **Jagadguru Shankaracharya** of Sringeri and offered him funds for the repairs of temples.

### **Important Facts Related to Tipu**

He was great admirer of Jagadguru Shankracharya of Sringeri and offered him funds for the establishment of image of Goddess Sharda which was vandalised by Marathas. **Tarikh-i-Khudai** is his autobiography. He wrote a military manual, **Fatahul Mujahidin**, in which rocket technology and rocket brigades was mentioned.

He completed Lai Bagh Project (Bangalore) started by Haider and also laid foundation of Krishnaraj Sagar Dam on Kaveri river.

Took keen interests in the French revolution and planted the tree of liberty at Srirangapatnam and became the member of the Jacobin club. He also called himself 'Citizen Tipu'.

The famous temple of Sri Rangnath was situated barely a handed yards from his place. He assumed the title of Padshah in 1797.

Treaty of Srirangapatnam 1792, signed by Tipu by which he had to cede half of his territory to the company of paid huge war reparation. Treaties signed by Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan:

**Treaty of Madras 1769**, restored by conquered territories to their respective owners.

**Treaty of Mangalore 1784**, restored the conquered territories mutually and liberated war prisoners.

**Treaty of Srirangapatnam 1792**, signed by Tipu by which he had to cede half of his territory to the company and paid huge war reparation.

## **The Punjab**

### **Sikhism and Sikh Gurus**

- Guru Nanak established the Sikh religion in Punjab. There were ten Sikh Gurus:
  - (i) **Guru Nanak (AD 1469 to 1539)**
    - First Sikh Guru and he established the Nanak Panth.
    - He was contemporary to Ibrahim Lodhi and Babur.
  - (ii) **Guru Angad (Lehna) (AD 1539-1552)**
    - He shifted the seat of Guru to Khadur and he discovered the Gurumukhi script and regularised the iangar system.

**(iii) Guru Amardas (AD 1552-1574)**

- He shifted the seat of Guru to Goindwal.

**Personal**

Birth  
Death  
Father's name  
Mother's name  
Wife's name  
Title

**Details**

Talwandi  
Kartarpur (Derababa)  
Kaluji  
Tripta  
Sulakshni  
Hajrat Rabbul Majij

- Mughal emperor Akbar visited Goindwal to meet him. Akbar gave land grants to Bibibhani, daughter of Amardas.
- He divided his spiritual empire into 22 parts called **Manjis** and each **Manji** was put under the charge of a Sikh.

**(iv) Guru Ramdas (AD 1574-1581)**

- Mughal emperor Akbar granted him 500 bighas land on which he established the city of **Amritsar** (earlier known as Ramdaspur) and made the post of Guru hereditary.

**(v) Guru Arjun Dev (AD 1581-1606)**

- He is also known as **Saccha Badshah**.
- He constructed a lake at Amritsar and also Santoshsar lake at Ramdaspur. In AD 1589, he constructed the Harmandir Saheb in the mid of Amritsar lake.
- He founded the city of Tarantaran, Kartarpur and Govindpur.
- He levied a compulsory religious tax (first-tenth of one's income).
- In AD 1604, he wrote the **Adi granth**.
- He was executed by Mughal emperor Jahangir in AD 1606.

- (vi) **Guru Hargovind (AD 1606 -1645)**
  - He transformed the Sikhs into a warrior community.
  - He fortified the city of Amritsar and built a 12 high 'Akal Takht' in the Harmandir Saheb complex at Amritsar.
  - He permitted his followers to take non-vegetarian food and he founded the city of Kiratput in Kashmir.
- (vii) **Guru Haryana (AD 1645 -1661)**
  - He met Dara Shikoh, son of Aurangzeb.
  - His son Ramraya visited Aurangzeb's court.
- (viii) **Guru Harkishan (AD 1661-1664)**
  - During his period, Ramaraya established a separate seat at Dehradun. His followers were known as **Ramrayi**.
- (ix) **Guru Teg Bahadur (AD 1664-1675)**
  - He shifted the seat of guru to Makhovali.
  - He was executed by Aurangzeb. Sis Ganj Gurudwara at Delhi marks the site of his Martyrdom.
- (x) **Guru Govind Singh (AD 1675-1708)**
  - Tenth and last Guru of the Sikhs born in AD 1666 at Patna. He founded the city of Anandpur and established his seat there. He founded the city of Paonta in Himachal Pradesh and gave military training to his followers. He established the Khalsa Panth in AD 1699 on Baisakhi Day.
- **War with the Mughals** Battle of Nandon (AD 1690), two Battles of Anandpur, Battle of Chamkaur and Battle of Khirdana (AD 1705).
- Adigranth was lost in the Battle of Khirdana, but he compiled it again. He summoned the assembly of Sikhs at Anantpur and selected 5 persons (Panj pyare), who took the water of immortality. The Sikhs were now required to keep 5 k's viz. Kesh, Kirpan, Kach, Kanga and Kara. He wrote Krishna Avtar, Chandi-di-war, his autobiography Vichitra Natak and Dasven Padshah ka Granth.

### **Banda Bahadur (AD 1708-1770)**

- Guru Gobind Singh died in AD 1708 and after him Banda Bahadur assumed the leadership of the Sikhs in the first decade of the 18th century and began the Sikh war of independence against the Mughal imperial authority. He defeated Wazir Khan, the Governor of Sirhind and established himself in a strong hill fort which he named Lohgarh.
- His disciples called him **Saccha Padshah** or veritable sovereign and coins were struck in his name. Under Banda, the Sikhs became a formidable force in Punjab between AD 1707 and AD 1715 and the Mughal's had to put in immense efforts to control him.
- Abdus Samad Khan, the Mughal Governor of Lahore, ultimately succeeded in defeating and capturing Banda Bahadur and his followers. He and his son were tortured to death at Delhi during the reign of Emperor Farrukh Siyar on 19th June, 1716.
- The invasions of Nadir Shah in AD 1739 and Ahmed Shah Abdali, between AD 1748 to AD 1767, provided opportunities for the further assertion of Sikh influence and power in Punjab.
- In AD 1764, the Sikhs assembled at Amritsar and struck the first coin of pure silver with the legend **Degh, Tegh, Fateh**. This is regarded as the first proclamation of the Sikh sovereignty in Punjab.
- In AD **1770's**, they organised themselves into 12 'misl' (military brotherhood with democratic set-up) or confederacies. The leaders of these misls exercised control over different areas in the Punjab.

### **Ranjit Singh (1780-1839)**

- Maha Singh, the father of Ranjit Singh, was the leader of Sukerchakia Misl and controlled the territory between the Ravi and the Chenab.
- Ranjit Singh ascended the throne in AD 1792, at the age of 12, but during the initial 5 years of his reign, he ruled through a Regency Council, headed by his mother. He took the complete charge of the government, in AD 1797, at the early age of 17 years.

- In AD 1798, **Zaman Shah** (son of Ahmed Shah Abdali) who considered himself to be the rightful ruler of Punjab, authorised Ranjit Singh to occupy Lahore and rule it on his behalf. He captured Lahore and Amritsar from the Sardars of Bhangi Misl and he made Lahore his political capital and assumed the title of Maharaja of Lahore in AD 1799.
- He established his authority over the entire territory from Sutlej to Jhelum. He defeated the confederacy of Sikh misls formed under Gulab Singh, thus, emerging a powerful leader of the whole Sikh community.
- Ranjit Singh, formed Dal Khalsa or the army of theocracy of Sikhs. He signed the **Treaty of Amritsar** in AD 1809 with the East India Company (Lord Metcalf) regarding rights over the Sutlej area.
- He helped Shah Shuja, grandson of Ahmed Shah Abdali, during the succession war in Afghanistan and in return, took the famous Kohinoor diamond from him. Later the throne was occupied by **Dost Mohammed**.
- Sikh forces, under the commandship of **Hari Singh Naula**, defeated the Afghan invader, Dost Mohammed.
- He renovated the Sikh shrine decorating the lower half with marble and the entire upper portion with copper surmounted with thin plate of gold and gave it the modern name of the **Golden Temple**.

### **Tripartite Treaty 1838**

Ranjit Singh signed **Tripartite Treaty, in AD 1838**, with Shah Shuja and the EIC (Lord Auckland), which gave freedom to the British troops to pass through the Punjab. Thus, the English restricted the advance of Russian forces in India through Punjab, with the help of Ranjit Singh.

### **First Anglo Sikh War**

- During the reign of Dalip Singh, the English invaded Punjab the First Anglo Sikh War, AD 1845-46), occupied Lahore and dictated a peace treaty, known as the **Treaty of Lahore** on 9th March, 1846.

- Since, Lahore Durbar was unable to pay the war indemnity, it agreed to transfer the company, the hill countries situated between the river Beas and Indus, including the province of Kashmir. **Gulab Singh**, who was instrumental in these negotiations, was given Kashmir by the company.

### **Second Anglo Sikh War**

- However, the things did not improve in Punjab which soon led to the **Second Anglo Sikh War** (AD 1848-1849) after which Punjab was annexed to the company by Lord Dalhousie. **Raja Dalip Singh** and **Rani Jindal** (the queen of Ranjit Singh) were sent away to London on fixed annual pensions. Sir Henry Lawrence became the first commissioner cum resident of Punjab.

### **The Jats**

- Spread mainly in the rural regions of Haryana, Punjab, Western parts of the Ganga Doab and Eastern Rajputana, the Jats were recognised as a group practicing agriculture, during the ancient and medieval periods. Being strong warriors, they were also employed as soldiers by Hindu as well as Muslim kings.
- Some important leaders of the community were as follows:

#### **Gokla**

- He was the zamindar of Til pat, who provided leadership to the Jat uprisings in AD 1669, which was suppressed by the Mughal Governor, Hasan Ali Khan.

#### **Rajarama (1670-1688)**

- He was the Zamindar of Sinsani. He provided leadership to the Jat uprisings in AD 1685, which was suppressed by Raja Bishan Singh Kachwaha of Amber.

#### **Churaman (AD 1690-1721)**

- He obtained Mansab from the Mughal ruler Bahadur Shah I and established the State of Bharatpur. He served in Bahadur Shah's campaign against Banda Bahadur.

### **Badan Singh (AD 1722 -1756)**

- He was the nephew of Churaman. Ahmed Shah Abdali gave him the title of Raja. He may be regarded as the real founder of the Jat States of Bharatpur.

### **Suraj Mai (AD 1756-1765)**

- He was the adopted son and successor of Badan Singh. It was **Suraj Mai** who successfully welded the scattered Jat Zamindars near Agra into one powerful state. Under him the Jat kingdom reached its zenith. He had remarkable talents for war and diplomacy. He is remembered as the 'Plato of Jat tribe' and as 'Jat Ulysses.'

### **Rajputs**

- Rajputs were unhappy with the policies of emperor Aurangzeb and declared their independence. In AD 1708, Bahadur Shah invaded Jodhpur, followed by the Mughal Commander Hussain Ali in AD 1714. In AD 1721, Sayyed brothers appointed Maharaja Jai Singh as the Subedar of Agra and emperor Mohammed Shah further gave him the area of Gujarat.

### **Sawai Jai Singh II (AD 1688-1747)**

- He was a distinguished statesman and an astronomer. He went on to construct observatories also known as **Jantar Mantar** in stone so as to calculate planetary positions at Varanasi, Delhi, Ujjain, Mathura and Jaipur which is a world heritage site. He also compiled a table of observations known as **Ziz-i-Jadid Muhammed Shahi**, also translated important works into sanskrit including Euclid's Geometry. He was a social reformer who tried to curb the practice of female infanticide.

### **City of Jaipur**

Foundations of the city was laid in AD 1727 by Sawai Jai Singh II. It was one of the first planned cities based on the principles of Vastu Shastra with the help of town planner Vidyadhar Bhattacharya. The king shifted his capital from Amber to Jaipur.