

# THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE



Hagia Sophia – Constantinople



## What is a Gunpowder Empire?

- Gunpowder Empire is a term used to describe the Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal Empires
- Each of these empires had great military success due to their early adoption of firearms, especially the siege cannon



# Sunnis and Shias: Two forms of Islam

## Origin of the schism

After the Prophet Mohammed's death in 632, a disagreement arose over who should succeed him as leader of Islam. Two main factions emerged, creating a rift that remains almost 14 centuries later.

Shias believe that Mohammed's cousin and son-in-law, Ali, was his rightful successor, and that Ali's descendants are the true leaders of Islam.

Sunnis believe that Mohammed's most pious companions were his rightful successors, and that the leaders of Islam may be chosen by consensus.

■ Shia areas    ■ Sunni areas



## Other differences

- Shia clerics generally have more authority among their followers than Sunni clerics do among theirs.
- Most Shias reject the idea of predestination (that God has decided who is saved and who is not), which Sunnis accept.
- Shias allow temporary marriages and have different inheritance laws.

Source: Chicago Tribune, University of Texas Library Online

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# Ottoman: Rise to Power

- Founded in 1289 by Osman, who commanded a large group of Muslim warriors
- Later Expand into outer regions of Byzantine Empire
- 1453: Conquer Constantinople
  - Under the leadership of Mehmed II



# Ottoman: Rise to Power

- **Janissary** were an elite military guard recruited from Christians, converted to Islam, and trained as foot soldiers or administrators to the sultan.





# Ottoman: Suleiman

- Suleiman I, or Suleiman the Magnificent, came to rule in 1520. He expanded Ottoman rule into Europe and the western Med. Sea.
- He ruled for 46 years.



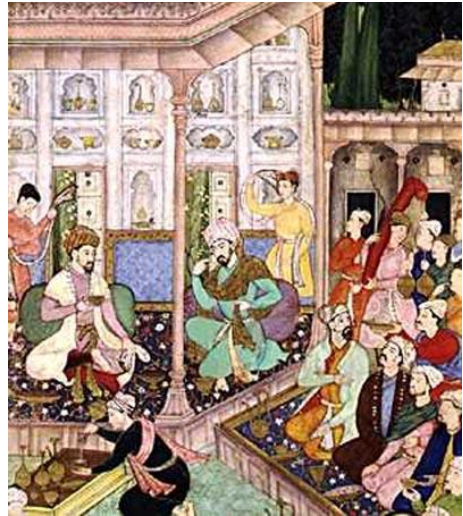
# Ottoman: Suleiman

- He codified Ottoman law keeping Islamic faith, took into account Christian inhabitants of the Empire, addressed taxes, and built more schools.



# Ottoman: Sultans

- head of the empire- held absolute control
- hereditary – eldest son always succeeded the father. (created turmoil)



# Ottoman: Millet System

- Millet System:  
Different communities based on religion throughout the empire



# Ottoman: Millet System

- In the millet system each community was responsible for
  - Taxes
  - Education
  - Legal Matters: Marriage, Divorce, Inheritance



# Ottoman: Society

- The subjects were divided by occupation.
- ruling class, & 4 main occupational groups: peasants, artisans, merchants, and pastoral peoples.



# Ottoman: Society

- Sunni Muslims.
- Tolerant of non-Muslims



# Ottoman: Decline

- Suleiman's mistake
- The training of officials declined
- local government grew more corrupt and taxes rose
- Wars depleted the imperial treasury.
- influence of Western Europe





# THE SAFAVID EMPIRE

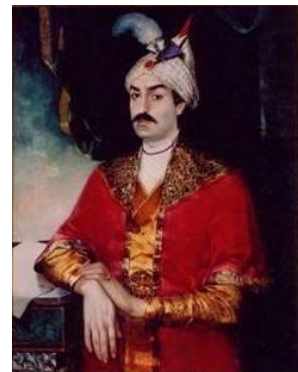


The Shah Mosque - Isfahan



## Safavid

- Founded by Shah Ismail
- Concentrated on building a powerful army
- Religion: Shia
- Religiously Intolerant



# Safavid: at its Peak

- Shah Abbas: Highest point of glory
- Reformed military and civilian life
- Equipped armies with modern artillery
- Punished corruption



# Safavid: at its Peak

- Hired only the most competent people
- Sought more religious toleration



# Society/Economy

## SOCIETY

- Traditional Social Structure
- Women wear the veil and live in seclusion
- Young boys kidnapped and enslaved (like Janissaries)
- Strong emphasis on artisans, engineers and merchants

## ECONOMY

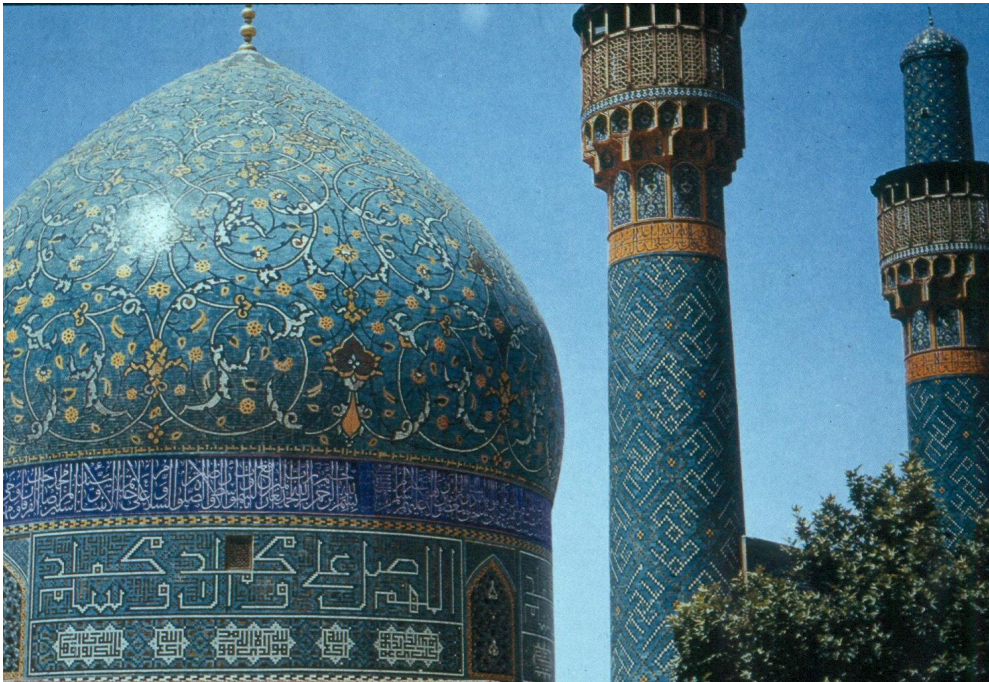
- Main Exports: Silk items and Persian rugs
- Government invests money in cultural achievements
  - Isfahan (capital)
  - Architecture (City planning; mosques)
  - Literature, poetry and music

# Safavid: Cultural Connections

- Blue domes
- Chinese artisans
- Metalwork
- Calligraphy
- Glasswork
- Pottery
- Carpets







## Safavid: Decline

- Shah Abbas followed Ottoman mistakes
- Incompetent leadership aided in decline
- By 1747 the empire fell into regional turmoil

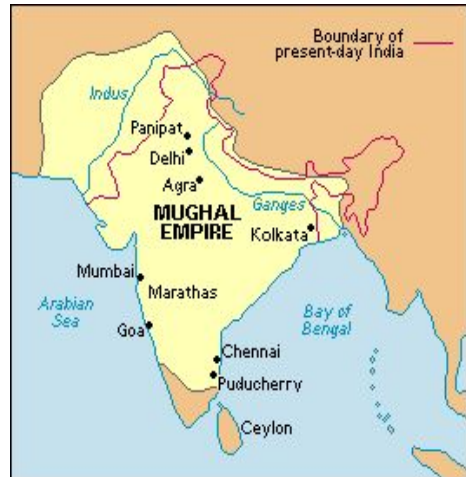


# THE MUGHAL EMPIRE



# Mughal: Geography

The Mogul Empire spread from modern-day Afghanistan south to near the southern tip of India.



# Mughal: Origins

- 8<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> centuries: religious and political turmoil
- Founded by Babur





# Mughal: Peak

- Akbar the Great
  - Military conqueror
    - Artillery
    - Utilized Rajput forces
  - Liberal ruler
    - Cultural blending
    - Governed using the talented
    - Graduated tax



# Mughal: Culture

- Blending
  - Welcomed diverse influence
  - Persian, Hindi, and Urdu (blend)
  - Religious Tolerance





# Mughal: Culture

- Arts and Literature
  - Book illustrations
  - Epic love stories
- Architecture
  - Style named for Akbar
  - Massive, graceful structures



# Society/Economy

## SOCIETY

- Mogul ruling class was made up of Muslims
- Clan or family links were important to get high positions
- Majority of the population were Hindu
- Appreciation of the arts and influenced by Persian art

## ECONOMY

- The economy boomed under the Moguls
- Road System and uniform currency united the empire
- Moguls welcomed foreign traders and exported cotton, spices, opium, sugar, silk, precious stones, etc.

# Mughal: Shah Jahan

- Shah Jahan
- He expanded the boundaries of the Mogul Empire
- Taj Mahal – a mausoleum for his favorite wife, Mumatz Mahal. This is the finest piece of Mogul architecture. It combines Persian, Ottoman, Indian, and Islamic styles.



# Mughal: Decline

- The British helped the decline of the Mogul Empire in India.
- British East India Co. Controlled trade and taxed lands surrounding the city of Calcutta.
- The Indians practiced guerilla warfare against the British.
- The British moved inland. Trade brought money to the British. The British were in India to stay.



# Mughal: Shah Jahan

As you watch the following video, answer the questions in your notes.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ppAQDPb8DYM>

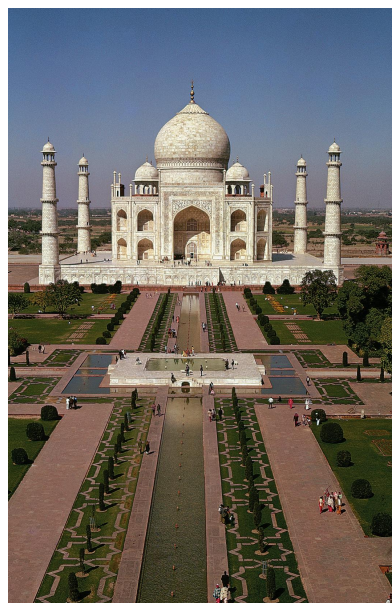


Figure 26-1 Taj Mahal, Agra, India, 1632–1647 •





Figure 26-6 Aerial view of the Taj Mahal, Agra, India., 1632-1647 ■