

Mughal Dynasty: Aurangzeb

These notes are your ultimate revision weapon to revise Mughal Dynasty : Aurangzeb history. We've distilled years of previous exam questions (PYQs) into one powerful, concise resource. Everything you need to know, nothing you don't.

- **PYQs, Decoded:** All key concepts from past exams, organized and simplified.
- **Revise in Record Time:** Short, precise, and designed for last-minute review.
- **Focus on What Matters:** Master high-probability topics and boost your confidence.

Aurangzeb's Rise to Power (War of Succession)

- **Claim to the Throne**
 - Aurangzeb succeeded Shah Jahan to the Mughal throne.
 - He did **not** inherit it through the law of primogeniture (right of the firstborn son).
 - He was Shah Jahan's **third** son, not the eldest.
 - The eldest son and original heir was **Dara Shukoh**.
- **Key Battles**
 - The **Battle of Dharmat** (1658) was fought between Aurangzeb and Dara Shukoh.
 - It occurred in **Dharmat, Madhya Pradesh**.
 - Raja Jaswant Singh of Jodhpur fought for Dara Shukoh but was defeated by Aurangzeb.
 - Aurangzeb was supported by his brother, Prince Murad.
- **Aftermath of the War**
 - Dara Shukoh was killed in 1659.
 - Dara Shukoh's **body was buried in Humayun's Tomb, Delhi**.
 - Dara Shukoh's son, **Prince Sulaiman Shukoh**, fled to Srinagar (Garhwal) for refuge but was later captured and killed.

- **Coronation**
 - Aurangzeb was **coronated twice**.
 - First coronation: July 31, 1658, in Delhi.
 - Second coronation: June 15, 1659, after his decisive victory.

Aurangzeb's Reign and Policies

- **Military Campaigns & Expansion**
 - He sent Raja **Jai Singh of Amber** to defeat Shivaji, leading to the **Treaty of Purandar in 1665**.
 - He conquered the Deccan Sultanates:
 - **Bijapur** was annexed in **1686**.
 - **Golconda** was seized in **1687**.
 - The ruler of Golconda at the time of its fall was **Abul Hasan Qutb Shah**.
- **Religious Policies**
 - He **re-imposed the Jizya tax** on non-Muslims in **1679** (it had been abolished by Akbar).
 - The tax was graded based on income, with exemptions for the poor, women, children, etc.
 - He believed in the concept of **Jihad** to spread Islam.
 - Despite this, his administration had the **highest number of Hindu officials and generals** (approx. 33%) in Mughal history.
- **Family**
 - His daughter was named **Mehrunnisa**.
 - He bestowed the title '**Sahibat-uz-Zamani**' upon his elder sister, **Jahan Ara** (daughter of Shah Jahan).

Aurangzeb's Character and Legacy

- **Personal Life & Titles**
 - He was known for his piety and austere lifestyle.
 - He was given the titles "**Zinda Pir**" (Living Saint) and "**Shahi Darvesh**" (Royal Ascetic).

- **Rebellions**

- His son, **Prince Muhammad Akbar**, rebelled against him in **1681**, weakening Aurangzeb's position against the Rajputs.

- **Contemporary Figures**

- The Maratha saint **Samarth Ramdas** was a contemporary of Aurangzeb.

Architecture During Aurangzeb's Reign

- He built the **Moti Masjid** inside the Red Fort in Delhi.
- He built the **Bibi Ka Maqbara** (Tomb of Bibi) in Aurangabad.
 - It is also known as the **Tomb of Rabia-ud-Daurani**.
 - It is famously called the '**Second Taj Mahal**' or '**Mini Taj**'.

Miscellaneous Context

- **European Travellers:** 
 - Peter Mundy (Shah Jahan's reign), William Hawkins & Thomas Roe (Jahangir's reign), and Antonio Monserrate (Akbar's reign) all visited India **before** Aurangzeb's rule. No major European traveller mentioned in the data came during his reign.

Know More About Mughal Dynasty: Aurangzeb:

- [Mughal Dynasty: Aurangzeb– Old Year Questions and Answers](#)
- [Mughal Dynasty : Aurangzeb One Liner Questions & Answers](#)