

Mughal Literature

These notes are your ultimate revision weapon to revise Mughal Literature 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.

Mughal History: Key Figures, Texts, and Culture

1. Mughal Royal Family & Relations



- **Gulbadan Begum**
 - Daughter of Emperor Babur.
 - Wrote the historical account '**Humayun Nama**'.
 - The text details the history of Babur and Humayun, including the battle between Humayun and his brother, Kamran.
 - Highly respected by Emperor Akbar, who commissioned her work.
- **Maham Anaga**
 - Foster mother and influential political advisor to Emperor Akbar.
 - Established the educational center '**Madarsa-e-Begum**' in Delhi.
 - Also constructed the Khairul Manzil Mosque.
- **Dara Shukoh**
 - The eldest son of Emperor Shah Jahan.

- Authored '**Mazma-ul-Bahrain**' (The Confluence of the Two Seas), exploring parallels between Sufism and Vedanta philosophy.
- Translated the Upanishads into Persian, titling it '**Sirr-i-Akbar**' (The Great Secret).
- **Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khana**
 - A nobleman and poet in Akbar's court.
 - A prolific scholar skilled in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Sanskrit, and Hindi.
 - Made a significant contribution to Hindi literature; most famous for his collection of couplets, '**Rahim Satsai**'.

2. Important Historical Texts & Their Authors

Chronicles of Reigns

- **Baburnama**: Autobiography of Babur, written in Chagatai Turkish.
 - *Translation*: Translated into English by **John Leyden and William Erskine**.  www.iasbook.com
- **Humayun Nama**: Authored by **Gulbadan Begum**.
- **Akbar Nama**: Authored by **Abul Fazl**; took approximately **seven years** to complete (1590-1596).
- **Tabaqat-i-Akbari**: A history of Akbar's reign, authored by **Khwaja Nizamuddin Ahmad**.
- **Padshah Nama / Badshah Nama**: Official history of Shah Jahan's reign, authored by **Abdul Hamid Lahori**.
- **Shahjahannama**: A chronicle of Shah Jahan's life, authored by **Inayat Khan**.
- **Alamgir Nama**: History of the early years of Aurangzeb's reign, authored by **Muhammad Qazim**.
- **Masir-i-Alamgiri**: A history of Aurangzeb's reign, authored by **Saqi Mustaid Khan**.
- **Tazul Maasir**: Authored by **Hasan Nizami**.
- **Tughluqnama**: Authored by **Amir Khusro** (It was incorrectly matched to Ibn Battuta in the source data).

- **Futuh-at-i-Alamgiri**: Authored by **Ishwardas Nagar**.
- **Tarikh-i-Dilkusha**: Authored by **Bhimsen Kayestha**.
- **Nushkha-i-Dilkusha**: Authored by **Bhim Sen**.

Other Significant Historical Works

- **Tabaqat-i-Nasiri**: Authored by **Minhaj-us-Siraj-Juzani**.
- **Tarikh-i-Firuzshahi**: Authored by **Ziauddin Barani**.
- **Chahar Chaman**: Authored by **Chandrabhan Brahman**.
- **Iqbal Nama-i-Jahangiri**: Authored by **Muitamad Khan**.
- **Khulasat-ut-Tawarikh**: Authored by **Sujanrai Bhandari**.

3. Translation Efforts & Literary Works

- **Anwar-e-Suhaili**: A Persian translation of the Sanskrit **Panchtantra**, attributed to Hussain Kashfi.
- **Ayar-i-Danish**: Another Persian translation of the **Panchtantra**, done by Abul Fazl.
- **Mufarrih-ul-Qulub**: Persian translation of the Sanskrit **Hitopadesha**, done by **Tajul Mali** during Akbar's reign.
- **Rihla**: The travelogue written by **Ibn Battuta**.

4. Language, Script, and Culture

- The official court and administrative language of the Mughal Empire was **Persian**.
- **Nastaliq**: A prominent and elegant style of **Persian calligraphy** used in medieval India.
 - Emperor Aurangzeb was skilled in writing the Nastaliq script.
- Akbar's reign is considered a **golden age for Hindi poetry** due to his policy of acceptance and patronage.

5. Regional Rulers and Poets

- **Raja Sawant Singh**: The ruler of Kishangarh who was a poet-king. He wrote devotional verses in praise of Lord Krishna under the pen name **Nagri Das**.

- **Keshavdas** (1555-1617): A renowned Sanskrit scholar and Hindi poet, famous for his works '**Rasik Priya**' and '**Ram Chandrika**'.

Know More About Mughal Literature:

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

