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International GCSE

Pakistan Studies

Paper 1

The History and Culture of Pakistan

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OXFORD

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1.4 | Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and the Two-Nation Theory

Important Dates

- 1862:** Sir Syed Ahmed Khan set up the Scientific Society
- 1869:** Suez Canal completed which shortened the travel time from Europe to India
- 1876:** Queen Victoria became Empress of India
- 1877:** Sir Syed Ahmed Khan founded the college of Aligarh
- 1885:** Indian National Congress founded
- 1900:** Hindi granted equal status as Urdu

Key Terms

- Reformer:** Someone who wants to change things for the better
- Democracy:** A system where people choose freely in elections who is to govern them
- Nationalist:** A person devoted to their country

Condition of Muslims Post 1857

The position of the Muslims was worsened by the events of 1857. Despite a lack of evidence, the British blamed Muslims more than the Hindus for the war. One of the reasons for this was that the Muslims had proclaimed Bahadur Shah Zafar, the Mughal descendant, as their leader and emperor. British opinion hardened against Muslims, who further lost their traditional positions in the police, as lawyers and magistrates, as well as in the army and the civil service. Many Muslim families suffered great hardship: they believed the British were trying to undermine their religion. Many Muslims did not wish to cooperate with the British and their relations with their British rulers were very strained. With the War of Independence behind them, the British felt confident in their control of India.

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan's Message to the Muslims

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan has been called the greatest Muslim reformer and statesman of the nineteenth century. The events of 1857 shocked him. An eminent Muslim writer and thinker, he was anxious that relations with the British should improve. He wanted the British to appreciate the Muslims and to respect their culture and beliefs. However, he also wanted Muslims to accept many of the good things that came from Europe. Muslims were depressed and Sir Syed Ahmed was eager to give them a sense of hope and purpose.

Sir Syed Ahmed had served as a judge and helped to save some European lives in Bijnore during the mayhem of 1857. Perhaps because of this consideration, and because of his balanced and objective approach to the situation, the British were prepared to listen to him. Sir Syed Ahmed wrote a short pamphlet in Urdu, the language of Muslims, titled *Asbab-i-Baghawat-i-Hind* (Causes of the Indian Revolt), in which he outlined the reasons for the War of Independence and pointed out the faults on both sides, especially on the part of

Profile

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan (1817–98)

Sir Syed Ahmed was born in Delhi in 1817 to a family that had always served the Mughal emperors. His first employment was with the East India Company. For a time he edited a newspaper published in Urdu, and he was deeply interested in Muslim history and culture; his historical writings earned him an honorary Fellowship of the Royal Asiatic Society, London. In 1862 he set up a Scientific Society to encourage to Muslims to learn about scientific advances made in Europe. In 1877 he founded the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College at Aligarh, which was later known as the Muslim University of Aligarh in 1920. After he was knighted by the British in 1876, he was known as Sir Syed Ahmed Khan. He died in 1898.



Did you know?

The Suez Canal



Work on the Suez Canal, running through Egypt, started in 1859 and was completed ten years later. It was originally a joint French-Egyptian venture, but the British bought out the Egyptians in 1875. Britain had a clear interest in controlling the shortest sea route to India. The canal cut journey times by nearly a half. Not only goods but, very importantly, officials and soldiers could be moved quickly to India, as British control tightened. In 1876 Queen Victoria took the title Empress of India. It was perfectly clear in the late nineteenth century that Britain had no intention of ever giving up her Empire. The drawing shows the Suez Canal, c.1860s.

the government, i.e. the British. It turned out to be very influential and was carefully studied by officials in the India Office in London. He blamed the rebellion on the British because they had failed to understand the feelings of the Indian people.

Sir Syed Ahmed admired British practices while maintaining strong faith in Islam. He warned Muslims that rejecting the British would benefit Hindus and urged cooperation with British rulers, as rebellion would fail. He believed that if the British left, Muslims would be dominated by the Hindu majority. Sir Syed also reassured Muslims that Christianity had similarities with Islam and that European ideas could be appreciated without compromising their faith.

It is not surprising that some Muslims were unhappy with Sir Syed Ahmed's insistence that they should be friendly towards the British. They were afraid that his support for westernisation would gradually weaken Muslim beliefs.

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan's Message to the British

As part of his campaign to bring about better relations between the British and Muslims he wrote an important pamphlet, *The Loyal Muhammadans of India*. He told the British that, in spite of the war, most Muslims were not opposed to them, and he included a list of Muslims who had remained loyal to the British. It was wrong, he wrote, for the British to discriminate against Muslims who were being wrongly blamed for the war. Horrified by British ignorance of the Muslim faith, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan advised them that they should try to understand and respect Muslim beliefs. He called on the government to consult Indians before taking important decisions.

The Aligarh Movement

In 1869 Sir Syed Ahmed Khan had visited Britain with his sons, for about a year and a half. He used this time productively, and was deeply impressed by the educational standards of British institutions. In 1875 Sir Syed Ahmed founded the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College in the town of Aligarh in Uttar Pradesh. He felt that Muslims suffered, particularly in relation to the British, because they were poorly educated. The purpose of his college was to give Muslims the kind of education that students in Europe received. Subjects included agricultural science, mathematics and modern scientific developments. At first English books were translated into Urdu, as he thought this would be beneficial; but later Sir Syed Ahmed insisted that students should learn in English. This meant that they could read English books and communicate easily with British officials. Through education, Muslims would be able to gain their proper status. Educated people would work to improve the condition of all the people and would be respected and serve as leaders, just as educated people did in England. Many Aligarh

Quick Questions

1. Why did British opinion harden against Muslims?
2. Why were the British willing to listen to Sir Syed Ahmed Khan?
3. Why was the Suez Canal important to British control of India?
4. What was the name of the college founded by Syed Ahmed?

and the demonstrators. The police fired on the crowd, killing several protesters. In retaliation, the enraged mob set fire to the police station, resulting in the deaths of 22 policemen.

This violent turn of events deeply disturbed Mahatma Gandhi, who believed in non-violence. As a result, he decided to call off the Non-Cooperation Movement on February 12, 1922, to prevent further violence.

Attacks on Muslims by Hindus raised the old fear of Hindu domination. The tragic failure of the Hijrat Movement divided and demoralised many Muslims.

In October 1923, with the backing of Britain, Türkiye became a republic. In March 1924, the new Turkish Government, led by Muslim President Kamal Atatürk, abolished the Caliphate. This was a total defeat for the cause the Khilafat Movement had tried to defend.

The Delhi Proposals, 1927

The Delhi Proposals were a set of demands put forward by the All India Muslim League in March 1927. These proposals aimed to address the political concerns of Muslims in India and sought to create a more balanced and fair political system. Here are the key points of the Delhi Proposals:

- 1. Separate Province for Sindh:** The Muslim League demanded the creation of a separate province for Sindh, which was then part of the Bombay Presidency. This was to ensure better governance and representation for the people of Sindh.
- 2. Reforms in NWFP and Balochistan:** The proposals called for the introduction of reforms in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) and Balochistan, bringing them on par with other provinces in terms of political and administrative rights.
- 3. Muslim Representation:** The Muslim League sought reserved seats for Muslims in the Punjab and Bengal legislative assemblies, proportional to their population in these regions. This was to ensure that Muslims had adequate representation in these important provinces.
- 4. One-Third Representation:** The proposals included a demand for Muslims to have one-third representation in the Central Legislature. This was to ensure that Muslims had a significant voice in the central government.

The Delhi Proposals were significant because they represented a major concession by the Muslim League, which agreed to give up its demand for separate electorates in exchange for these guarantees. However, the Indian National Congress did not accept these proposals, leading to continued political tensions between the two groups.

Quick Questions

1. What was satyagraha?
2. What did Mr Jinnah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ doubt about Gandhi's methods?
3. What was the effect of events at Chauri-Chaura?
4. Why was Gandhi put in prison?
5. When did Türkiye become a Republic?
6. Where did Muslims try to migrate in the Hijrat Movement?

Stretch yourself

Analyse the importance of Khilafat Movement as an important step for the political development of Muslims. Research using the Internet to support your answer.

The Delhi proposals were an important step in the ongoing struggle for independence and highlighted the need for a political system that fairly represented all communities in India. Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

Section A

The Pakistan Movement (1857–1947)

Chapter 3

Stagnation and Stalemate (1927–1939)

Objectives

You will learn about:

- Attempts at political solutions, including the Indian Statutory Commission and the Nehru report.
- Muhammad Ali Jinnah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ and the Fourteen Points: aims and importance. Allama Iqbal رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, Chaudry Rehmat Ali and their contributions to the Pakistan movement.
- Further attempts to find a political solution, and the reasons for failure: the Simon Report; the three Round Table Conferences (1930–32); The Government of India Act (1935).
- Congress Rule 1937–1939: the reasons for Congress' electoral victory in 1937 and the importance of the Congress Rule.

Getting Started

The British were keen to sort out how India was to be governed. But they remained steadfast in their determination to hang on to the subcontinent. They also seemed unable, or unwilling, to understand the fears of the Muslims. Muslim opinions were ignored. The British seemed only concerned to placate Congress. But with the emerging leadership of Quaid-e-Azam رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, the Muslim voice was getting stronger. For the first time ideas of a separate Muslim state began to be spoken about.

3.1 | Indian Statutory Commission and the Nehru Report

Important Dates

- 1927–8:** The Simon Commission proposed proposals which were unacceptable to Congress and the Muslim League
- 1930:** Sir Muhammad Iqbal رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, Muslim League President, called for a separate Muslim state
- 1930–32:** Round Table Conferences in London were held
- 1933:** The name Pakistan was coined by Chaudry Rehmat Ali
- 1935:** Government of India Act was passed by the British government
- 1937:** Provincial elections were held and Congress ruled seven provinces

Jinnah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ in Collaboration with the Swaraj Party for Self-Government

During the Khilafat and non-cooperation protests the Muslim League had taken rather a back seat. Congress and Gandhi had a higher profile. But when the League met in 1923 at Lahore, under the presidency of Muhammad Ali Jinnah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, there was heated discussion as to the best way forward. Mr Jinnah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ argued passionately that progress depended on Hindu-Muslim unity. Following his election in 1923, unopposed, to the Bombay Muslim seat in the Legislative Assembly, he joined with the Parliamentary Swaraj Party. The term swaraj, derived from Sanskrit, means self-

Churchill later explained to the House of Commons that he was really thinking about those countries occupied by the Germans. Labour members of Parliament took up India's cause. Why, they asked, should the principle of self-government apply to other countries and not to India? During the war the Labour Party increasingly supported Indian demands for independence.

4.2 | Quit India Movement and the Cripps Mission 1942

Cripps Mission, 1942

After their attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the Japanese entered the war and advanced through South-east Asia as far as Burma. India was now directly threatened. The British were even more anxious to build stronger support. In March 1942 a top-level mission, led by the Labour politician Sir Stafford Cripps, arrived in India. Cripps immediately promised independence for India once the war had been won.

The Cripps proposals

Dominion Status: India would be granted Dominion status after World War II, meaning it would have self-governing authority while remaining within the British Commonwealth.

Constitutional Assembly: A Constituent Assembly would be formed to draft a new constitution for India. This assembly would include representatives from both British India and the princely states.

Right to Opt-Out: Provinces not willing to join the Indian Union could form their own separate union and have a separate constitution.

Defense Control: During the war, the British government would retain control over defense matters.

Minority Rights: The proposals included safeguards for the rights of minorities

Indian Reaction to Cripps Proposals

The Congress and the Muslim League rejected these proposals. Gandhi described the proposals as 'a post-dated cheque on a bank that was failing'. The Congress wanted immediate power. The League was insistent that there had to be a firm promise of Pakistan as a separate state. Anything else, such as the constitution-making body Cripps proposed, would lead to the Hindu majority imposing a new Indian Union and denying the rights of Muslims. Stafford Cripps returned to London to report on the failure of his mission.

Quick Questions

1. What did the Government of India do that upset the Congress?
2. What did the Day of Deliverance celebrate?
3. Why was the Atlantic Charter significant to India?



▲ Figure 4.2: Sir Stafford Cripps sharing a light moment with Mr Gandhi

Source

QUAID-E-AZAM'S رحمۃ اللہ علیہ REPLY TO CRIPPS

'If all parties agree to the Muslim demand for Pakistan or partition and Muslim right for self-determination, details to be settled after the war, then we are prepared to any reasonable adjustment with regard to the present.'

*Quaid-e-Azam رحمۃ اللہ علیہ
speaking to the press on 15
April 1942*

Did you know?

The main actions encouraged by Congress during the Quit India Movement:

Widespread Protests: Take part in large-scale protests and demonstrations to demand the end of British rule in India.

Acts of Civil Disobedience: Engage in civil disobedience by refusing to pay taxes and boycotting British goods and services.

Non-Cooperation: Withdraw support from the British government, including resigning from government positions and jobs.

'Do or Die': Embrace Gandhi's call to 'Do or Die,' meaning to persist in the struggle for independence with unwavering determination and courage.

Quit India Movement, 1942

Gandhi and Congress launched another anti-British civil disobedience campaign, the Quit India Movement. The idea was that with enough pressure Britain, engaged in war, would leave India. If anything it increased British determination to remain and to defeat the rebellion. In United Provinces and Bihar, chaos was caused and communications were disrupted. The British lost control of the cities of Bombay and Calcutta. Government buildings, including police stations and post offices, were destroyed.

The British reacted with great force and in about six weeks they regained control. Troops and planes crushed the uprising. About 1000 people, many of them women, were killed. A huge round-up of Congress supporters led to 60,000 arrests. Congress leaders were imprisoned until the end of the war three years later. Those who took part saw themselves as freedom fighters.

The Muslim League opposed the Quit India Movement. In their opinion it could not succeed and was bound to provoke British force. Quaid-e-Azam (مفتی محمد علی جناح) saw this as a ploy by Congress to gain full control once the British left and to compel all other parties to deal with them on Congress terms.

Famine in Bengal

In 1943–44 there was a serious shortage of rice. The war against Japan meant that food everywhere was in short supply, but in Bengal, where rice is the staple food, it resulted in a dreadful famine. The situation was made worse by the Bengal government being unable to cope with the situation. The British authorities took a long time before they did anything. Altogether more than one and a half million people died from hunger or the illness caused by the famine. The Muslim League angrily demanded action. In the end the British army was deployed to distribute food and enforce a system of rationing to make sure everyone got their fair share.

Quick Questions

1. What did Cripps promise would happen at the end of the war?
2. To which British political party did Cripps belong?
3. What was needed, according to Source B, for agreement?
4. What was the Quit India Movement?
5. What was the effect of the famine in Bengal?

Muslim provinces'. The League and the British Cabinet said that the grouping had to take place. The Muslim League accepted the proposals so long as the grouping was compulsory. For Congress, Nehru declared that they would not be bound by any agreement and once in power would alter the plan in any way that they wished.

The British moved on and the Viceroy, Lord Wavell, set about forming an Interim Government. The Congress refused to join it. Wavell ploughed on and announced the membership of the government. It included members of the Congress, Quaid-e-Azam رحمۃ اللہ علیہ and other Muslim League members. But the League refused to join when it learned of the inclusion of a Muslim, nominated by the Congress, who was not a member of the League. In spite of opposition to his plan, Wavell then invited the Congress to form the Interim Government. So on 2 September an Interim Government headed by Jawaharlal Nehru of the Congress took office. It was soon obvious that the League could not leave the government of India in the hands of the Congress. In October five members were appointed by the Muslim League to join the Government. One of the five was a Hindu. It was a clever way of getting the Congress to appoint a Muslim. It also served to show that Quaid-e-Azam رحمۃ اللہ علیہ respected Hindus. He knew that there would be a sizeable Hindu population in the new country.

The Cabinet Mission Plan of 1946 was a significant attempt to address India's complex political situation and facilitate a smooth transition to independence. However, the deep-seated differences between the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League and their conflicting visions for India's future led to the plan's eventual failure. This failure set the stage for the partition of India and the creation of Pakistan in 1947.

Direct Action Day

During the summer of 1946 the Muslim League became increasingly worried that the British might simply withdraw and leave it to the Indians to sort out the mess that they left behind. It was known that the British were increasingly frustrated at the failure of Indians to cooperate together. It was also known that most Labour Members of Parliament were more sympathetic to the Congress position than to the idea of Pakistan.

On 16 August the Muslim League called for Direct Action Day in an attempt to stop the British Government giving in to the Congress. Wavell's invitation to the Congress to form an interim government underlined their concerns. Quaid-e-Azam رحمۃ اللہ علیہ called on Muslims to protest peacefully and in a disciplined manner. There was massive support from Muslims across India including Muslim businesses who closed.

But there was serious rioting on the day, with many deaths. In



▲ Figure 4.6: Jawaharlal Nehru

Quick Questions

1. Who won the British General Election in 1945?
2. How many seats did the Muslim League win in the 1946 Provincial Assembly elections?
3. Who was the British viceroy in 1946?
4. Why do you think Mr Jinnah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ appointed a Hindu to the Interim Government?
5. What happened in Calcutta on Direct Action Day?
6. What did Direct Action Day demonstrate to the British?

Calcutta, nearly 4000 people were killed. Each side blamed the other. Some people said it was Wavell's fault for inviting the Congress into government. Sadly, it was a precursor for further violence. Later, in October, many Hindus were killed in East Bengal and shortly afterwards an even greater number of Muslims were killed in Bihar. In this crisis Jinnah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ approved Muslim League members joining with Congress in the interim government. It was an attempt to stop further violence. But then disagreements between League and Congress Ministers paralysed the government. This added still more pressure to the British who now feared the real possibility of a civil war breaking out whilst they were still in charge. Viceroy Wavell also expressed concern to London that the 80,000 Europeans living in India could be in danger. The need to make a decision on the future of India was very urgent.

However Direct Action Day did show, by the millions who supported it on the day, that Muslims were really serious in their demand for the creation of Pakistan.

Stretch yourself

How did the British government's fear of civil war and their urgency to achieve Indian independence influence the decision-making process regarding the partition of India?

4.4 | The Events of 1947-Making of Pakistan

The British Labour Government was frustrated that all efforts to move towards independence were obstructed by the refusal of the Congress and the Muslim League to compromise with one another. In February 1947 the Prime Minister Attlee told the House of Commons of the Government's intention to leave India no later than June 1948. By setting a deadline he hoped to compel Indian leaders to work together. It was an historic announcement. There was no doubt at all that Britain would finally give up India. Prime Minister Attlee still did not want to agree to Pakistan. But if that was the price for getting Britain out, then he would let partition happen.

Source

'RESPONSIBLE INDIAN HANDS'

'His Majesty's Government wish to make it clear that it is their definite intention to take the necessary steps to effect the transference of power into responsible Indian hands by a date not later than June 1948.'

Clement Attlee, Prime Minister, speaking in the House of Commons, 20 February 1947

new nation. 'He was,' said The Times, of London, 'a legend even in his lifetime.' But Pakistan survived in spite of the difficulties and has exceeded expectations.

Did you know?

Chaudhry Rehmat Ali explained how he chose the name 'Pakistan' in his pamphlet, *Now or Never*, 1933. The I was added to make it easier to pronounce. Pakistan is the only country to have an acronym as its proper name.

P Punjab
A Afghanistan (NWFP) now called Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
K Kashmir
I
S Sindh
T
A Balochistan
N



▲ **Figure 4.10:** Quaid-e-Azam رحمۃ اللہ علیہ reading a copy of the Muslim League newspaper Dawn. Quaid-e-Azam رحمۃ اللہ علیہ helped to set up the paper in 1942 in Delhi. After partition Dawn moved to Karachi.

Quick Questions

1. Who was the final Viceroy?
2. When was 'Pakistan' announced?
3. Who was Lord Mountbatten's wife?
4. When did Pakistan achieve independence?
5. Who became Governor General of India?

Stretch yourself

In what ways did the Second World War accelerate the activities and demands of India's struggle for independence?

How did the massive influx of refugees from India impact Pakistan's social, economic, and political landscape in the years following independence?

In what ways did the lack of a well-established administrative framework hinder Pakistan's ability to govern effectively in its early years?

Practice Exam Questions

Multiple Choice Questions

Chapter 1 | The War of Independence, its impact, and the development of the Pakistan movement (1857–1906)

- What position did Syed Ahmed Khan hold in 1857?
 - Headmaster
 - Writer
 - Judge
 - Politician
- What was the reason that Syed Ahmed Khan believed that Muslims were disadvantaged?
 - they lived in villages
 - they were poorly educated
 - they were not Christians
 - they did not work hard enough
- What was the main purpose of the Simla Deputation in 1906?
 - To demand complete independence from British rule
 - To request protection for Muslims and advocate for separate electorates
 - To oppose the partition of Bengal
 - To merge with the Indian National Congress
- Which of the following was not one of the original objectives of the All-India Muslim League in 1906?
 - To promote loyalty among Muslims to the British Government
 - To protect and advance the political rights of Muslims
 - To demand immediate independence from British rule
 - To prevent hostility among Muslims towards other communities

Chapter 2 | Controversy, crises and reaction to repression (1905–1927)

- Who became the new Viceroy in 1899?
 - Chelmsford
 - Mountbatten
 - Curzon
 - Morley
- Which important leader attended the 1911 Darbar in Delhi?
 - The King
 - Churchill
 - Gandhi
 - Queen Victoria
- The Muslim League was set up in
 - 1899
 - 1906
 - 1909
 - 1913
- The Muslim League feared
 - Hindu domination
 - the British
 - Gandhi
 - British army
- Congress represented mainly
 - the British
 - Muslims
 - Bengalis
 - Hindus
- In 1916 Congress and the Muslim League met in
 - Lahore
 - Lucknow
 - Delhi
 - Karachi
- Muhammad Ali Jinnah محمد علی جناح went to London and studied to be a
 - lawyer
 - businessman
 - politician
 - writer
- The man who produced the report with Lord Chelmsford that led to the Government of India Act 1919 was
 - Montagu
 - Minto
 - Lloyd George
 - Curzon

The PPP has been instrumental in promoting democratic values and social justice in Pakistan. It has championed the rights of marginalised communities and played a key role in the restoration of democracy after periods of military rule. The party's leadership, particularly Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Benazir Bhutto, has left a lasting legacy on Pakistan's political and social fabric.

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N)

The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) was formed in 1993 as a faction of the original PML, led by Nawaz Sharif. It emerged from the dissolution of the Islamic Democratic Alliance.

PML-N has been a dominant political force, particularly in Punjab. It has led multiple governments, implementing significant economic reforms and infrastructure projects. Nawaz Sharif has served as Prime Minister three times.

PML-N has significantly influenced Pakistan's economic policies, focusing on infrastructure development and economic growth. The party has also played a crucial role in the political landscape by advocating for democratic governance and challenging military influence.

Did you know?

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N)

Agenda: PML-N's agenda includes economic liberalism, conservatism, and Pakistani nationalism. The party supports free markets, deregulation, lower taxes, and private ownership.

National Assembly History: PML-N has had a significant presence in the National Assembly, forming the government in 1990–1993, 1997–1999, 2013–2018, and currently holding power since 2024.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) was founded by Imran Khan on April 25, 1996. Initially, it struggled to gain attraction but rose to prominence in the 2010s.

PTI became a major political player, winning the second-largest number of seats in the 2013 elections and forming the government in 2018. Imran Khan served as Prime Minister from 2018 to 2022.

PTI has brought a new dynamic to Pakistani politics, emphasising anti-corruption and governance reforms. The party's rise has challenged the traditional dominance of PML-N and PPP, introducing a more populist and reform-oriented approach. PTI's tenure has seen significant policy shifts, particularly in social welfare and foreign policy.

Synoptic link

To find out more about the political tenure of the following political parties, refer to the respective pages:

- PML(N) p.145–147
- PTI p.150–151
- PPP p.142–144

Did you know?

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

Agenda: PTI's agenda focuses on fighting corruption, promoting social welfare, and improving governance. It advocates for increasing the rights of women and religious minorities.

National Assembly History:

PTI gained its first seat in 2002, boycotted the 2008 elections, and became the second-largest party in 2013. It formed the government from 2018 to 2022.

Did you know?

Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM)

Agenda: MQM's agenda includes advocating for the rights of the people of Pakistan, promoting social liberalism, and secularism.

National Assembly History: MQM has been a consistent presence in the National Assembly since the late 1980s, often as a coalition partner.

Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM)

The Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) was founded in 1984 primarily representing the Urdu-speaking population in urban Sindh.

MQM has been a significant political force in Karachi and other urban areas of Sindh. It has played a crucial role in local governance and has been part of various coalition governments.

MQM has significantly influenced urban politics in Sindh, particularly in Karachi. The party has been a strong advocate for the rights of the Muhajir community and has played a key role in local governance.

Jamaat-e-Islami (JI)

Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) was founded by Syed Abul Ala Maududi in 1941 in British India. It aimed to spread Islamic values and advocate for an Islamic political system.

JI has been influential in Pakistan's political landscape, particularly during the Islamization campaign of President Zia-ul-Haq. It has a significant presence in the National Assembly and has been part of coalition governments in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

JI has played a crucial role in promoting Islamic values and legislation in Pakistan. The party has been a key player in the Islamization of laws and policies. JI's influence extends to educational and social sectors through its network of institutions and welfare programs.

Did you know?

Jamaat-e-Islami (JI)

Agenda: JI promotes Islamic principles, aims to implement Sharia law, and opposes Western ideologies.

National Assembly History: JI has participated in various elections, securing seats in the National Assembly in 1970, 1993, 2013, and 2018.

Did you know?

Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI)

Agenda: JUI's agenda includes promoting Islamic fundamentalism, religious nationalism, and supporting the creation of Pakistan.

National Assembly History: JUI has been a significant presence in the National Assembly, particularly through its faction JUI-F, which has secured seats in multiple elections, including 1970, 2002, 2008, and 2018.

Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI)

Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI) was founded in 1945 by Shabbir Ahmad Usmani as a pro-Pakistan offshoot of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind.

JUI has been active in Pakistani politics, particularly in advocating for Islamic laws and opposing un-Islamic practices. It has various factions, such as JUI-F and JUI-S, and has been part of coalition governments.

JUI has been a major force in promoting Islamic legislation and policies in Pakistan. The party has played a key role in shaping the country's religious and political discourse, particularly in rural areas. JUI's influence is evident in its strong support base in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan.

Fact File**Awami National Party (ANP)**

Founded: 1986, ANP is a secular and leftist party mainly representing Pashtuns.

Election Wins: ANP has had varying success in elections. In the 1990 elections, it won six seats in the National Assembly. In the 1993 elections, it secured three seats. In the 2024 elections, ANP won one National Assembly seat and several provincial assembly seats in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Current Status: ANP continues to advocate for Pashtun nationalism, democracy, and secularism. The party is currently striving for the establishment of a prosperous, peaceful, and liberal society.

Balochistan National Party (BNP)

Founded: 1996, BNP represents the Baloch nationalist movement.

Election Wins: BNP has had significant wins in provincial elections. In the 1997 elections, BNP formed a coalition government in Balochistan. In the 2024 elections, BNP won one National Assembly seat from NA-261 (Surab-Kalat-Mastung) and secured ten seats in the Balochistan provincial assembly.

Current Status: BNP continues to advocate for more provincial rights and greater autonomy for Balochistan through peaceful and democratic struggle.

Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM)

Founded: 2020, PDM is a coalition of various parties formed to oppose the government of Imran Khan.

Election Wins: PDM has had mixed success in elections. In the 2022 by-elections, PDM won two National Assembly seats. The coalition succeeded in ousting Imran Khan through a no-confidence motion in April 2022 and formed its own government.

Current Status: PDM continues to be a significant political force, advocating for the independence of civilian government from the military establishment.

National Awami Party (NAP)

Founded: 1957, NAP was a major leftist party that advocated for greater provincial autonomy.

Election Wins: NAP had notable success in the 1970 elections, winning all four seats allocated to Balochistan in the National Assembly. The party formed coalition provincial governments in the North-West Frontier Province and Balochistan in the early 1970s.

Current Status: Although NAP was banned in the 1970s, its legacy continues to influence leftist politics in Pakistan.

Quick Questions

1. Who is the founder of the PML-N?
2. In which year was the PML-N founded?
3. Who founded the PPP?
4. In which year was the PPP founded?
5. Name the political party that advocates socialist ideals?
6. Name the party that lays emphasis on economic development and socialist ideals.
7. Name the city that was considered the bastion of the MQM.
8. Who does the ANP represent?
9. Who founded the JI?
10. In which year was the JI founded?
11. In which year was the PTI founded?

Fact File**Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid-e-Azam (PML-Q)**

Founded: 2002, PML-Q is a faction that split from PML-N.

Election Wins: PML-Q had significant success in the 2002 elections, winning 126 out of 342 seats in the National Assembly and forming the government in the center and three provinces. In the 2024 elections, PML-Q secured five seats in the National Assembly.

Current Status: PML-Q often allies with military governments and focuses on conservatism and Pakistani nationalism. The party remains active in the political landscape.

Synoptic link

To find out more about the political tenure of PML(Q), refer to pages 140–142

Key Terms

Lingua Franca: A language used between two people who do not speak the same language to talk to one another

Fact File**Origin of Urdu Language**

Urdu, a language with roots in the Indo-Aryan family, evolved over centuries through the mingling of Persian, Arabic, Turkish, and local dialects in the Indian subcontinent. Its development can be traced back to the medieval era, when it flourished as a language of poetry, administration, and courtly communication in the Mughal Empire. With the advent of British colonial rule in the 19th century, Urdu gained further prominence as it became the lingua franca of diverse communities across the region.

Quick Questions

1. Give the number of years in which Urdu was to replace English as the official language of Pakistan.
2. Name the language that is constitutionally protected.

5.13 | The National Language of Pakistan

Constitutional Role of Urdu

Urdu was declared the national language of Pakistan. Steps were to be taken to bring it in use as the official language within fifteen years of the commencement of the Constitution and until such time, the English language might be used for official purposes.

Significance of Urdu in Pakistani Culture

Urdu, with its rich history and deep cultural roots, holds paramount significance in Pakistan. It is spoken and understood in all parts of the country. As the country's national language, it shapes its people's cultural identity, societal norms, and artistic expressions.

The linguistic landscape of Pakistan is enriched by Urdu's influence, as it serves as a unifying force among its linguistically diverse population. While regional languages such as Punjabi, Pashto, Sindhi, and Balochi hold significance in their respective provinces, Urdu acts as a common language of communication, enabling people from different backgrounds to interact and connect on a national level. Its widespread usage in education, media, and administration underscores its role as a bridge between various ethnic groups and regions.

Urdu literature boasts a rich tradition spanning poetry, prose, and drama, with luminaries such as Allama Iqbal (عبدالحق عظیمی), Mirza Ghalib, and Faiz Ahmed Faiz leaving an indelible mark on its literary landscape. The language's poetic beauty and expressive versatility have inspired generations of writers, poets, and artists to explore love, longing, spirituality, and social justice themes. Urdu poetry, in particular, holds a revered status, with ghazals and nazms resonating deeply with audiences across Pakistan and beyond.

Beyond its linguistic and artistic significance, Urdu plays a pivotal role in fostering a sense of national identity and unity among Pakistanis. As the language of independence movements and national discourse, Urdu embodies the aspirations, struggles, and triumphs of the Pakistani people. Its inclusion as the national language in the Constitution of Pakistan symbolises the country's commitment to linguistic diversity, cultural pluralism, and democratic values.

5.14 | Regional Languages of Pakistan

Pakistan is a linguistically diverse country with over 70 languages spoken as first language. The majority of these languages belong to the Indo-Iranian group of the Indo-European language family. While Urdu is the national language and English is also an official language, numerous regional languages are spoken across the country. The

Key Military Operations in Pakistan for Counter-Terrorism (2013–2018)

Operation Zarb-e-Azb

- **Duration:** June 15, 2014 - April 15, 2016
- **Objective:** Launched by the Pakistani military in North Waziristan Agency to eliminate terrorist sanctuaries and dismantle insurgent networks.
- **Key Achievements:** The operation led to a substantial reduction in terrorist activities across Pakistan, particularly in urban areas, and successfully destroyed numerous militant hideouts, training camps, and weapon caches. Several high-profile militant leaders were eliminated or captured, restoring government control over previously militant-dominated areas. Despite causing significant displacement, efforts were made to rehabilitate and resettle the affected population, marking the operation as a major success in Pakistan's counter-terrorism efforts.

Operation Radd-ul-Fasaad

- **Duration:** February 22, 2017 - Ongoing
- **Objective:** Comprehensive counter-terrorism operation targeting terrorist elements across Pakistan, focusing on intelligence-based operations and community engagement.
- **Key Achievements:** The operation has led to the conduct of over 375,000 intelligence-based operations, resulting in the dismantling of numerous terrorist cells and a significant reduction in terrorist incidents. The Pakistani military has recovered over 72,000 illegal weapons and five million rounds of ammunition. Efforts under this operation have also included the establishment of 497 border posts and extensive demining activities in tribal districts.

Operation Khyber IV

- **Duration:** July 16, 2017 - August 31, 2017
- **Objective:** Conducted in the Khyber Agency to eliminate terrorist hideouts and secure the border with Afghanistan.
- **Key Achievements:** The operation successfully cleared strategic areas such as the Brekh Muhammad Kandao peak, which was a key vantage point for militants. Numerous terrorist hideouts were dismantled, and caches of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), arms, and ammunition were recovered. The operation also resulted in the elimination of several high-profile militants. Despite facing stiff resistance, the Pakistani forces managed to secure the region, preventing terrorist infiltration from Afghanistan.

Synoptic Link

For updated information on counter terrorism in Pakistan, refer to the following links:

<https://pakistanarmy.gov.pk/wot-year>

<https://pakistanarmy.gov.pk/incidents-wot>

Fact File

IDPs stands for Internally Displaced Persons. These are individuals or groups who have been forced to flee their homes due to conflict, violence, natural disasters, or human rights violations, but who remain within their country's borders.

Did you know?

Operation Radd-ul-Fasaad ongoing military operation in Pakistan, launched on 22 February 2017 in the aftermath of the 2017 Sehwan shrine bombing. The operation is aimed at eliminating the threat of terrorism, consolidating the gains made in other military operations, and ensuring the security of Pakistan's borders.

Quick Questions

1. Name the chairman of the PML-N in 2018.
2. Name the area merged into KPK province in 2018.
2. Give two reasons why the 2017 Census was used in the election in 2018.
4. In which year was the 15th National Assembly elected in Pakistan?

Key Election Statistics

Polling Stations	85317
Polling Booths	242000
Neutral Observers (Fafen)	19863

Constituencies

Candidates	National	Provincial
	272	577
	3600	8800

Number Of Seats

National Assembly	342
General	272
Women	60
Minorities	10

6.8 | Elections, 2018

General elections were held in Pakistan on the 25th of July, 2018. The 15th National Assembly, and four provincial Assemblies, were elected in a third consecutive democratic transition to power. By 31st May, 2018, all Assemblies had dissolved, and the following month, in June, nomination papers were filed and the major parties launched their campaigns based on their individual manifestos.

Main Parties

There were three major political parties in this election:

1. **Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz or PML (N):** The chairman of this party was Shehbaz Sharif, the brother of Nawaz Sharif. The PML-N had been the victor in the 2013 elections, with its stronghold in the Punjab, and was initially leading in the polls before the 2018 elections. It contested the election on a manifesto that included promises to achieve industrial growth, reduce budget deficit, create 2 million jobs each year, eliminate poverty by 2030, and land redistribution to landless tenants was also promised.
2. **Pakistan People's Party or PPP:** The PPP was led by Bilawal Bhutto Zardari as its chairman. Bilawal is the scion of the powerful Bhutto-Zardari clan. The stronghold of the party has historically been rural Sind. The manifesto of the PPP in 2018 was similar to its historical political bastion of empowerment of women, reduction of poverty, and provision of basic amenities like water and energy, to the citizens of Pakistan.
3. **Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaaf or PTI:** Led by star-cricketer-turned-politician, Imran Khan, the PTI was leading closely behind the PML(N), and some said that it was making inroads into the middle-class voters of Pakistan. PTI's manifesto included promises of provision of 5 million low-cost houses, revival of the textile industry, construction of Diamer Bhasha Dam, development of tourism industry and increased tax collection.

Key Features of the 2018 Election

1. The 2018 Election was to be held under the aegis of the Election Commission of Pakistan, an autonomous body that was established in 1956; under Article 218 of the Constitution, the ECP was to organise and to conduct elections of the National Assembly, Provincial Assemblies, the Senate and local bodies 'honestly, justly, fairly and in accordance with law.' The ECP consists of a Chief Election Commissioner, and 4 commissioners, one from each province.

Fact File**International Law Against Border Violation**

An air strike by one sovereign country on another within its borders typically violates several principles of international law, including:

1. United Nations Charter: Article 2(4) of the UN Charter prohibits the use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.
2. International Humanitarian Law: This includes the principles of military necessity, distinction, and proportionality, which require that attacks must be aimed at military objectives and avoid excessive harm to civilians.
3. Hague Conventions: Specifically, the Hague Convention IV (1907) prohibits the bombardment of undefended towns, villages, dwellings, or buildings.

Any such actions are illegal unless they are in self-defense or authorised by the UN Security Council, which has not been the case in Indian strikes in Pakistan.

Source**PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF'S FOUR POINT PLAN FOR KASHMIR, 2006**

1. To define the boundaries of the State of Kashmir with its various regions
2. Gradually demilitarise the identified regions of Kashmir and reduce the fighting and killing on both sides
3. Introduce some self-government, but not independence to the various parts that make up Kashmir
4. Set up a joint management system of Pakistanis, Indians and Kashmiris to oversee the self-government and deal with matters beyond the scope of self-government.

Pulwama Attack and Balakot Airstrikes, 2019

The Pulwama attack in February 2019, where a suicide bomber targeted an Indian paramilitary convoy, was claimed by a militant group. However, Pakistan condemned the attack and denied any state involvement.

In response, India conducted airstrikes on Balakot, claiming to target terrorist training camps. These strikes were a violation of its sovereignty and responded with its own air operations, leading to a dangerous escalation. This was the first time that one nuclear-armed state launched an air attack on another nuclear-armed state.

Pakistan captured an Indian pilot, Abhinandan, who was held in Pakistani custody for two days before being released on March 1, 2019, as a gesture of peace by Pakistan. The handover took place at the Wagah border, where Abhinandan was escorted by military personnel and the International Committee of the Red Cross. His release was aimed at de-escalating the conflict between the two nuclear-armed neighbours

India's Policy on Kashmir Post 2019

India insists Kashmir is part of India and will not listen to any other point of view. Holding on to Kashmir is quite difficult and requires a massive number of Indian soldiers and police. The Indian security operation in Kashmir is hugely expensive. All this is because of continuous Kashmiri protests and resistance which they call terrorism. In August 2019 Indian Prime Minister, Modi, a Hindu nationalist, stripped Indian-occupied Kashmir of its limited autonomy and statehood that was guaranteed under Article 370 of the Indian Constitution. Once again India violated UN Security Council resolutions. Neither India nor Pakistan should bring about a significant change in the situation of Kashmir. But Kashmir was put under the direct control of the Indian Government in New Delhi. This

Source**INDIAN CENSUS OF KASHMIR, 2011**

Total population	12.5 million
Muslim	68.31%
Hindu	28.43%

Key Terms

Cease-Fire: Fighting has been suspended but the conflict has not been settled

Annexation: Taking someone else's territory by force

Diplomacy: The skill of negotiating and trying to reconcile differences between different nations.

Plebiscite: A referendum or vote by all the people of a nation to decide an important question.

Pakistan's Collaboration with United Nations

The UN carries out these duties through a number of separate agencies. Pakistan is involved in all aspects of the UN's work. Since 1963 the, UN World Food Programme has worked to relieve hunger and poverty for the world's refugees. A great deal of this work has taken place in Pakistan to which many refugees have fled, for example from Afghanistan. UN agencies have also given assistance when natural calamities have hit Pakistan, including several earthquakes and dreadful floods in 2005 and 2022. In the floods of 2022, the UN provided emergency food and shelter to more than seven million people.

Organisation of United Nations

The UN tries to settle disagreements between nations by diplomacy and negotiation. Every member country is represented in the General Assembly, which meets between September and January every year and, if needed, at other times as well. All kinds of issues and problems are discussed, and resolutions adopted. These form UN policy.

At the heart of the UN is the Security Council. There are 5 permanent members, USA, Britain, China, France and Russia (formerly the USSR). Other members of the Security Council are elected to serve for two years. Pakistan has served several times on the Security Council including in 2012–2013. It is the task of the Secretary-General of the UN and the staff to carry out the decisions of the Security Council and the proposals of the General Assembly. The headquarters of the UN is based in New York City on land donated by the USA.

Fact File

These aims of the UN come from the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations

We the peoples of the United Nations, are determined...

- to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours;
- to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security;
- to ensure...that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest;
- to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples.

UN's Failure to Resolving the Kashmir Issue

There is a serious weakness in the UN which often prevents the UN from taking decisive action on important issues. Because of that

Did you know?**Do not confuse**

Syed Ahmed Barelvi رحمۃ اللہ علیہ (1786–1831) with Ahmed Raza Khan Barelvi (1856–1921). Ahmed Raza Khan was also a Muslim revivalist with similar views to Syed Ahmed and he inspired the Barelvi Movement with millions of supporters. They emphasised the primacy of Islamic law. Later, many of them played an important and active role in the Pakistan Movement.

Source**SYED AHMED BARELVI رحمۃ اللہ علیہ GROSSLY MISREAD THE SITUATION**

A few historians have pointed out that after the Sikhs in Punjab, he (Syed Ahmed Shaheed Barelvi رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) wanted to challenge the British. However he had grossly misread the situation.

The local tribal communities 'betrayed him' to the Sikh ruler. He eventually lost his life in the Battle of Balakot in 1831, hundreds of kilometres away from his home, and his movement was brutally crushed by the Sikhs. His philosophy and Jihad, though, continued to inspire those who sought the purity of religion.'

Haroon Khalid, Pakistan writer and educator, Dawn, 2019

Fact File

The British feared the Wahhabi Movement and began to describe every Muslim who opposed them as a 'Wahhabi'. Supporters of the Movement were inspired by the teachings of Abdul Wahab of Arabia and Shah Waliullah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ and included Syed Ahmed Barelvi رحمۃ اللہ علیہ. After his death, his followers took up the cause of resisting the British taking over more and more of their country. It was a continuation of Jihad. The British certainly felt threatened and carried out a ruthless and successful campaign against them.

Did you know?

Islamic theology, also known as 'Ilm al-Kalam', is the study of the fundamental beliefs and doctrines of Islam. The goal of Islamic theology is to provide a coherent and rational understanding of Islamic beliefs, ensuring that they are consistent with the teachings of the Quran and Hadith.

Syed Ahmed Barelvi's رحمۃ اللہ علیہ contribution to Islamic Theology

Shah Waliullah رحمۃ اللہ علیہ emphasised the importance of returning to the original sources of Islam, namely the Quran and the Hadith i.e. sayings and actions of Prophet Muhammad رَسُولُ اللَّهِ خَاتَمُ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ وَأَخْتَارُهُ. Building upon Shah Waliullah's رحمۃ اللہ علیہ ideas, Syed Ahmed advocated for a revival of true Islamic practices based solely on the Quran and Hadith, rejecting what he perceived as later innovations in religious practices. This emphasis on the primacy of Hadith led to his association with the Ahl-i-Hadith movement, in the 1860s, which sought to purify Islam from what they considered to be un-Islamic accretions. Ahl-i-Hadith emphasised following exactly the words of Hazrat Muhammad رَسُولُ اللَّهِ خَاتَمُ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ وَأَخْتَارُهُ. Legal decisions, they believed, should always be based on religious teaching and not on legal precedent. They supported 'Tawhid' and opposed ceremonies and rituals at tombs and shrines.

They were committed to Jihad and led resistance to the British. The British lumped them in as Wahhabis. Indeed they were probably the most serious in their opposition to the British. The British tried unsuccessfully to crush them but did eventually agree to respect the fact that they were a separate religious group from the Wahhabis.

Jahangir did not try to change Akbar's system but he did neglect it so that it became inefficient, unfair and corrupt. There was a big increase in government officials. Land was allocated in *jagirs*, tenancies that lasted only a few years. The tenants, *jagirdars*, tried to make as much money as they could and often treated the peasants harshly. On top of that there was a great deal of corruption by those who collected taxes.

Queen Noor Jahan

The other ruler Emperor Jahangir's favourite wife was Queen Noor Jahan. They were a ruling partnership which was something quite remarkable for a Mughal marriage. Indeed some historians think that she was the real ruler during the reign of Jahangir.

Jahangir had coins minted in her name, an honour that was reserved for the emperor alone. The signatures of both Jahangir and Noor Jahan ratified all decisions. Her instructions and orders carried the full weight of the emperor. From 1622 until his death in 1627, Jahangir was so ill that Noor Jahan had virtually full responsibility for the empire.

As ruler Noor Jahan was keen to encourage trade. This was a time of economic growth and the building of new roads to link places of importance throughout the empire. Along these new roads were facilities to help travellers. Noor Jahan ordered the construction of Noor Mahal *serai*, a resting house built near Jalandhar, an important trade route. This monument still stands as a famous example of Mughal architecture with four towers and ornamental panels. The ruins of other *serais* can also be seen including in Pakistan.

Did you know?

The first female ruler of a Muslim Empire was Razia Sultan who ruled the Delhi Sultanate from 1230 to 1240.

Did you know?

The city of Sheikhpura in the Punjab was founded as a new town by Jahangir in 1607. He had the fort built in 1619 as a hunting lodge. Today it is close to the busy city center. This is evidence that Jahangir liked this area. Just out of town is a monument, Hiran Minar (Minaret of the Deer), which is a memorial to his pet deer, *Mansaraj*.

Source

Emperor Jahangir made it absolutely clear to everyone, according to a servant, 'that he had bestowed the sovereignty on Nur Jahan (as he called her)'...

The source supports the view that Noor did not seek to usurp the emperor but was devoted to him and, fortunately, for him, had the ability to take on his role. So she was in effect the ruler of the Mughal Empire.

Profile

Nur Jahan, 1577–1645

Mihr al-Nissa was the most impressive person known as Queen Noor Jahan after her marriage to Emperor Jahangir in 1611. There is no doubt that they loved each other very much. Her parents were Persian and she already had one child from a previous marriage. Nur Jahan was, according to people at the time, very beautiful. More importantly, she was highly intelligent, independent and ambitious with many skills. One of them was being able to use a firearm. She is reported to have killed 4 tigers with just 6 bullets and was known as the 'tiger killer'. This helped her reputation as a strong and capable person. Her power and influence ended with the death of her husband. Following Jahangir's death she was kept under house arrest in Lahore on the orders of her stepson, Emperor Shah Jahan, until her death.





▲ Figure 12.6: Shah Jahan

12.7 | Emperor Shah Jahan

After Jahangir's death in 1627, Shah Jahan was declared emperor in Lahore. The empire at this time was enormously wealthy. Shah Jahan enjoyed this wealth and showing it off. He wanted to be seen to live up to his name! He was far richer than any other king or ruler in the world. At this time, in the 17th century, the Mughal Empire was the greatest in the world. It possessed enormous wealth, beautiful buildings were constructed, along with great art and culture.

Shah Jahan had a peacock throne made to reflect his important position and prestige. This took seven years to make. It had 12 emerald pillars, each with two peacocks covered with precious jewels. Between each peacock was a tree covered with even more jewels. Large amounts of gold were used. It was a great extravagance at a time when most people were poor and lived hard lives. Even so we must recognise the superb workmanship and skills that were developed by the Mughals.

War of Succession

There were also local disputes involving the ambitions of local princes and their loyalty or disloyalty to the Mughal emperor or those who sought to be emperor. Frequently these rebellions led to war in order to maintain the authority of the emperor. Soon after taking the throne, Shah Jahan, had to take action against Khan Jahan Lodhi, an ambitious man who had served Jahangir but had turned against Shah Jahan. Khan had gone to the Deccan, where with the approval of the local ruler he commanded a very large army. Faced with this challenge, Shah Jahan went to Burhanpur, the Mughal capital of the Deccan and took charge of the military operation to destroy Khan and his army. It was a dangerous time because it was the first serious threat to emperor Shah Jahan's rule. Khan Jahan Lodhi was forced out of the Deccan and he ended up fleeing to the Punjab where he was captured and subsequently killed.

Emperor Shah Jahan had successfully asserted his power and authority and, so he secured the respect and fear of anyone who thought they might defy him.

Further Trouble in Deccan

The Deccan continued to trouble Emperor Shah Jahan. He put his son Aurangzeb in charge as the viceroy or governor of the Deccan, during 1636 – 1644. His job was to ensure proper Mughal control. He appears to have done quite well in this role. Historians are not quite sure why then he was removed in 1644. We believe he fell out with his father, Shah Jahan, probably because of his lifestyle.

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Author: Nigel Smith

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