



Mughal –Maratha Period

ART AND CULTURE (1500 AD – 1800 AD)

Krishnakali Dasgupta

Coexistence of Richness in Artistic expression and Spiritual living

Mughal influence on
Art and Culture of India

- Architecture
- Art
- Literature
- Music & Dance
- Textiles & Jewellery
- Cuisines

Sufism, Sikhism &
Bhakti Movement

- Literature
- Music
- Religion
- Lifestyle
- Social strata

Mutual influence of Islam and
Hinduism on each other

Mughal Court



Imperial splendor

Peacock Throne

Akbar's court



Art and Culture

Mughal Architecture (India 15th-18th century) : Mix of Islamic, Indian, Turkish, and Persian styles.



Humayun's Tomb , Delhi

The Mughals were a Muslim Empire descended from the Mongol Empire of Turkestan.

Mughal architecture is characterized by its

- *symmetry,*
- *geometrical shapes,* and
- *detailed ornamentation*

palaces, gardens, mosques, forts, gateways and mausoleums

Red sandstone and marble



Jama Masjid, Delhi



Agra Fort

Mughal Architecture (India 15th-18th century) :Mix of Islamic, Indian, Turkish, and Persian styles

Red Fort, Delhi (Lahori gate)



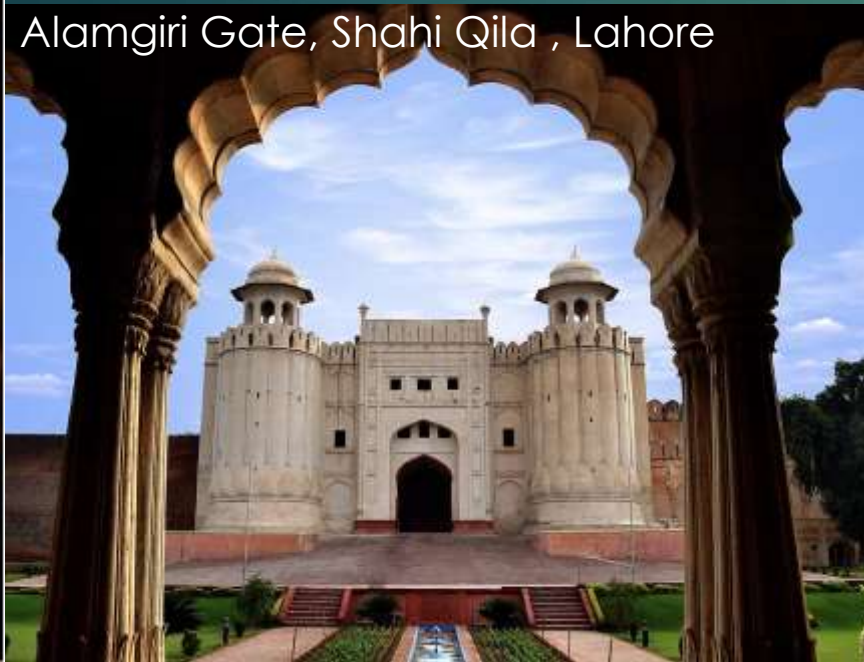
Badshahi Masjid, Lahore



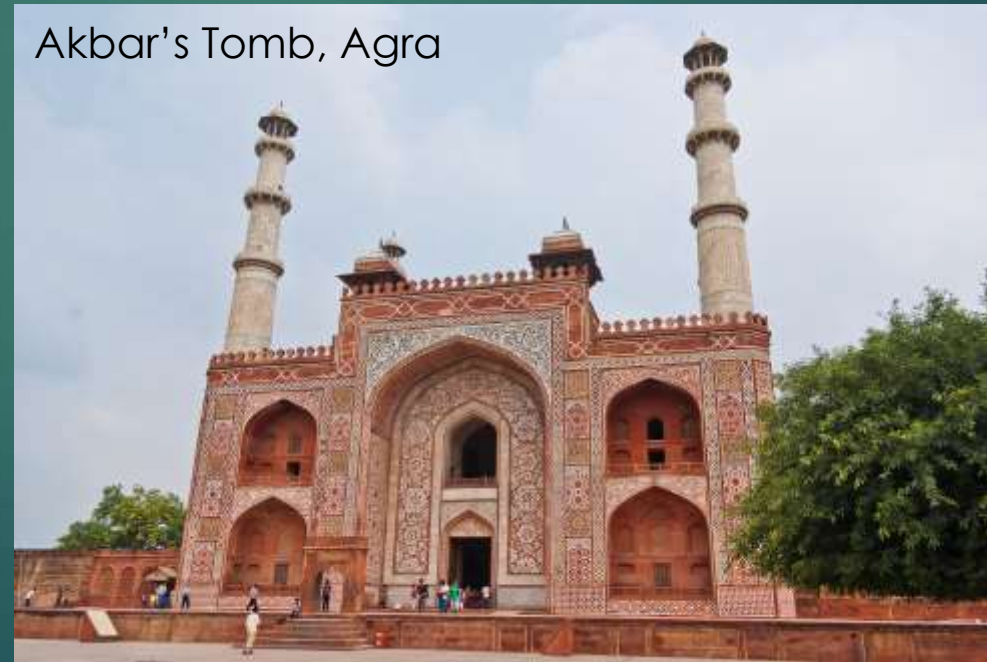
Shah Jahan mosque, Thatta



Alamgiri Gate, Shahi Qila , Lahore



Akbar's Tomb, Agra



Buland Darwaza,
Agra



The early structures that the Mughal Emperors built were **monolithic** (single standing massive structure eg. A Gate)-

To suggest the **indisputable power of the Mughal Empire.**

- featured **intricate tile mosaic patterns** both inside and out, and were usually built of **red sandstone.**

Chauburji gate , Lahore



The Taj, Agra, India



Typical elements : (common to Persian style)

1. **The usage of Iwans** (gateway)- vaulted spaces, with the space enclosed by three walls and an opening.
2. **Extensive use of arches** : built for aesthetic reasons, as well as to place Masyrabias windows and to lessen the extend of sunlight to pour into the building.

Mughal : Red Sandstone, Marble
Influence : Persian, Islamic, Hindu

Jame Mosque, Ishfahan, Iran



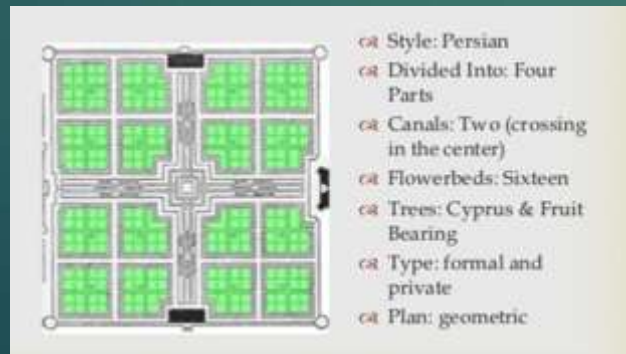
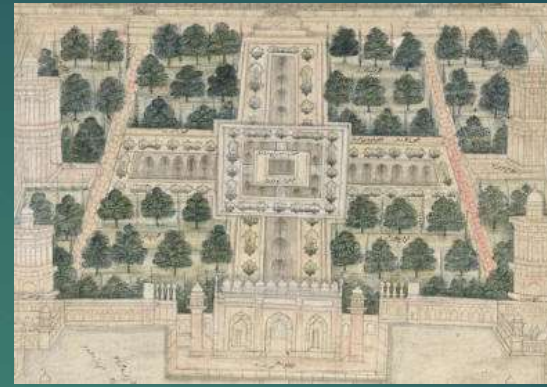
3. **The Bulbous domes** : sits on top of a cylindrical drum, before tapering to a point and decorated with a finial. Sometimes multiple smaller domes decorate the rooftops of the buildings.
4. **Magnificent minarets** with cupolas at the four corners
5. **Large halls and shaded corridors**

Persian: Mud bricks, coloured tiles
Influence : Islamic & Elamites, Achaemenids, Parthians, Byzantine, Chinese and Sassanids

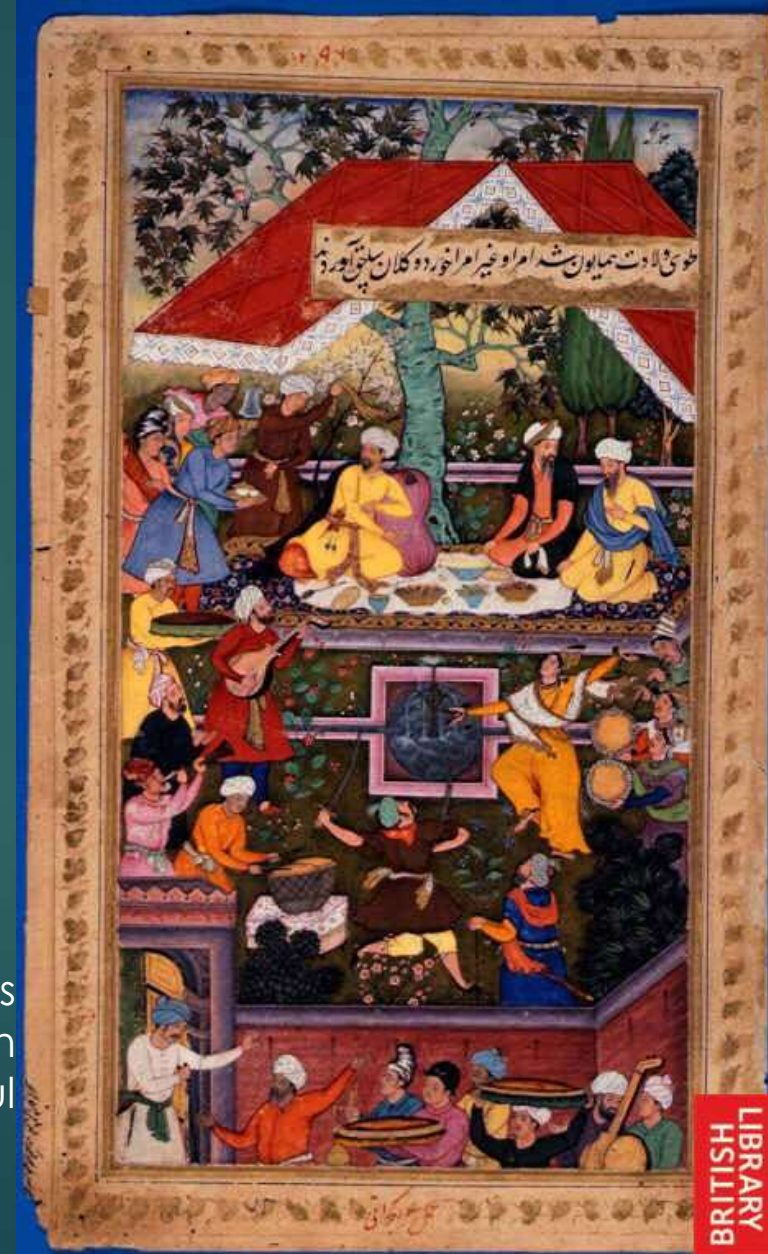
6. Gardens : Persian quadrilateral Charbagh concept : based on the four gardens of Paradise



Naghsh-e Jahan square, the charbagh Royal Square (Maidan) Isfahan, (1598 and 1629)



Babur celebrating news of birth of his son in Charbagh, Kabul



6. Gardens : Persian quadrilateral Charbagh concept : based on the four gardens of Paradise

Aram Bagh, Agra



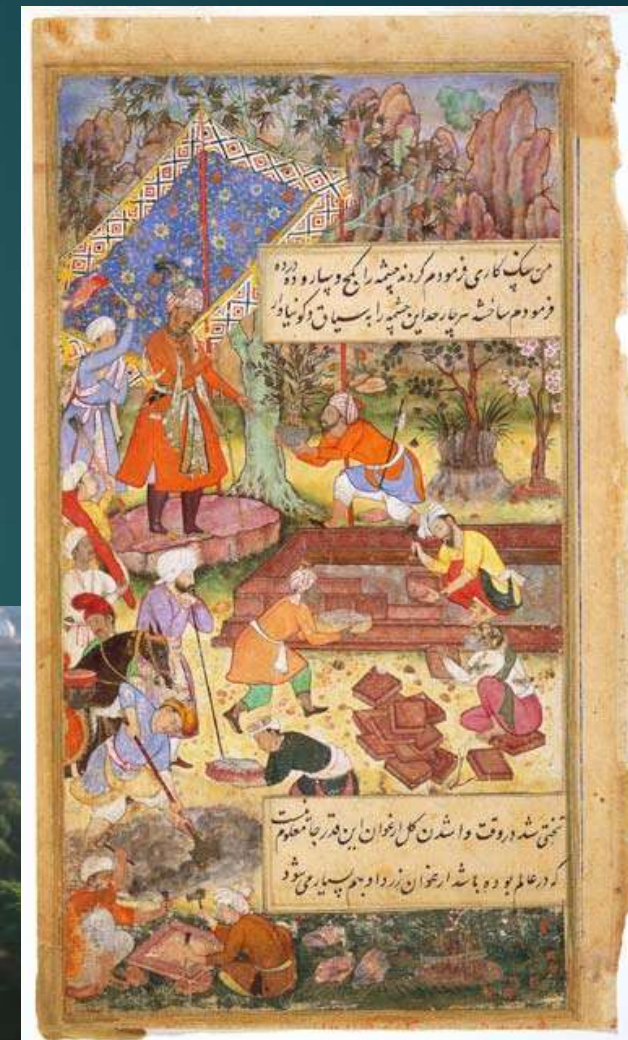
Humayun's Tomb, Delhi



Shalimar Bagh, Srinagar



Mughal Gardens, Taj, Agra



7. Fountains, ponds and waterworks (to control heat)

Shalimar Bagh, Srinagar



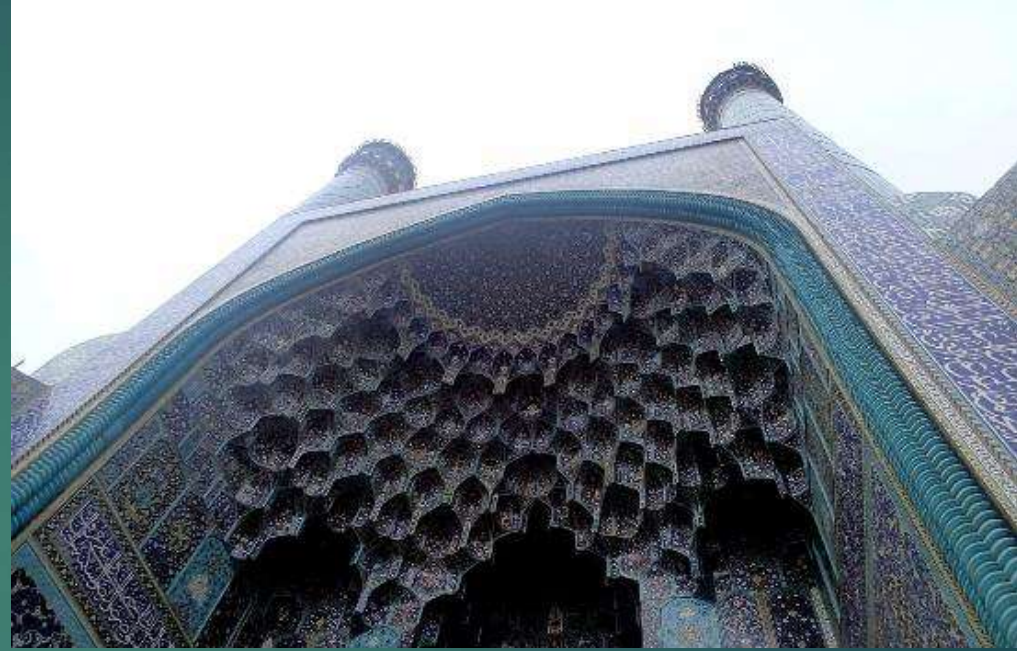
Shalimar gardens, Lahore



Agra Fort

1. Usage of **Muqarnas** – The stalactite like decoration - commonly used under arches, especially under the vaults of the Iwans. Its elaborate form is a symbolic representation of universal creation by God

Amber Fort, Jaipur



Shah Mosque, Isfahan

Arches :
Persia
(without grooves)

Humayun's Tomb, Delhi



Mughal :
curves (old Indian style)

Badshah Mosque, Lahore

2. *Mashrabias* – The pierced screens (jali work) used as windows (control heat and sunlight)

Old
Cairo



Taj,
Agra



Amber
Fort,
Jaipur



Patwon Ki
Haveli,
Jaisalmer



3. **Calligraphy** – Both (Persian & Mughal) used calligraphy as decorative accents around the gate of the Iwan, under cornices and around the arches surrounding the building.



Taj, Agra



Bulad Darwaza, Agra

4. **Pietra dura** – **Parchin kari** work

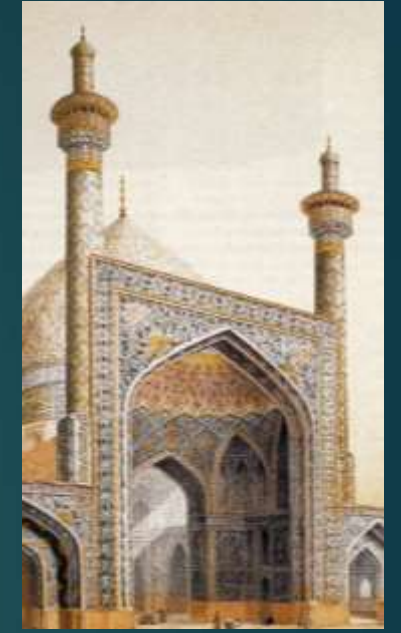
Detailed in-lay work on marble



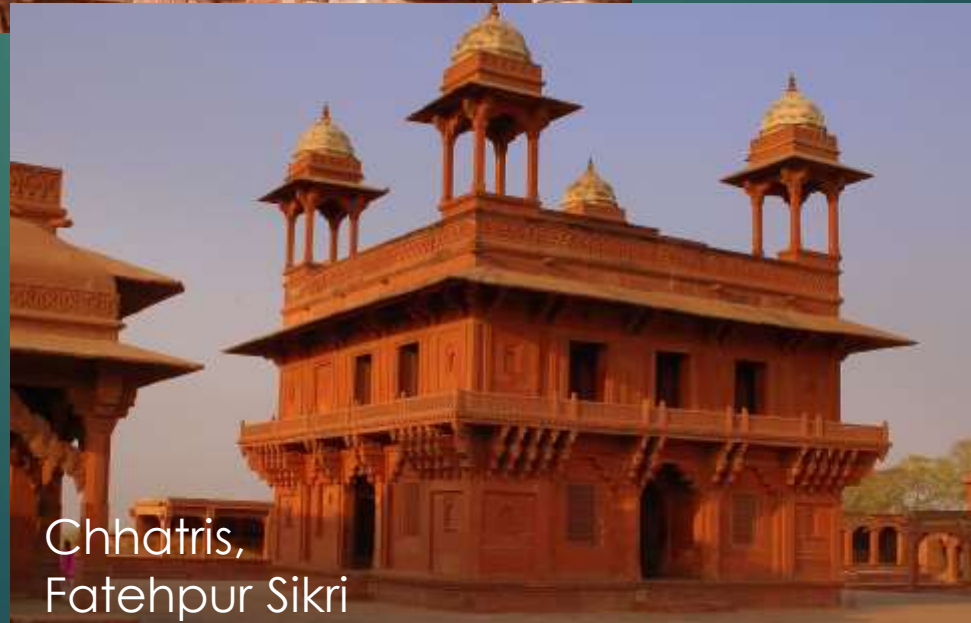
Agra Fort



Lahore Fort



Minarets : stalks of flowers (Hindu)

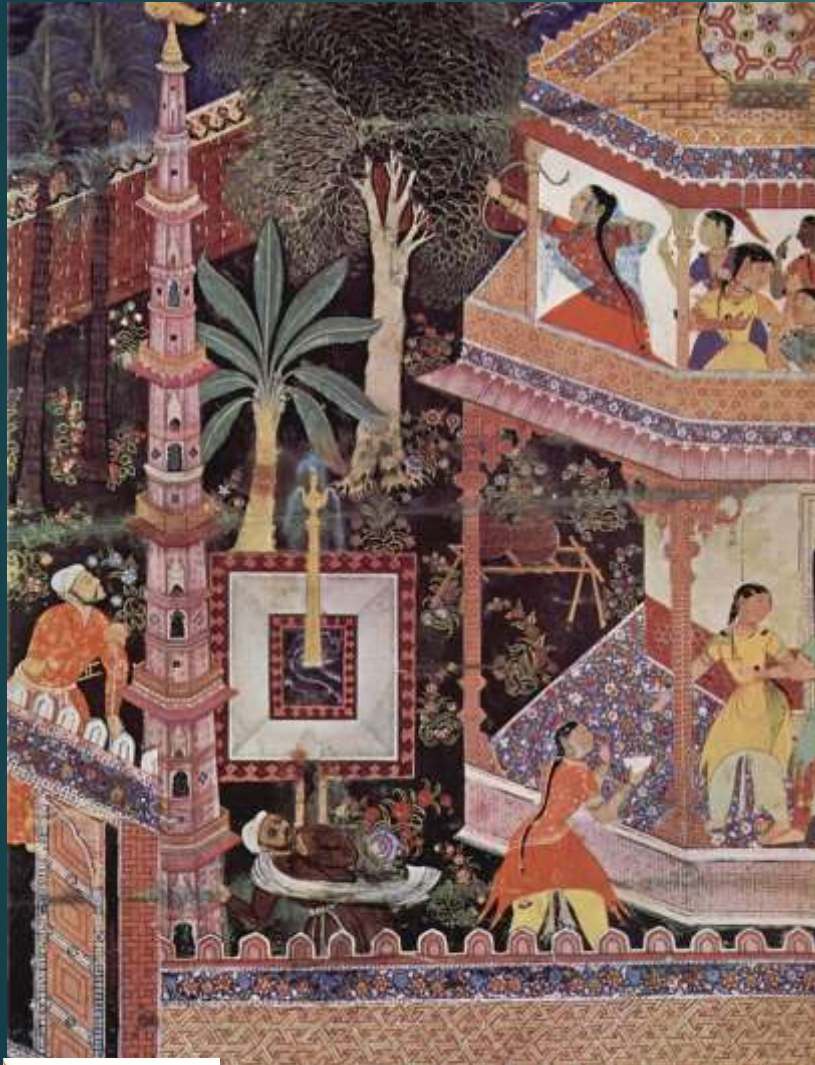


Chhatris,
Fatehpur Sikri

Indian
influences

Mughal Paintings & Manuscripts

Mughal miniatures – from Persian miniatures, illustrations in manuscripts, Single standing/series



Hamzanama



Art and Culture



Mumtaz – Shahjahan

Deccan Paintings (illustrations)



Rajput miniatures – puranic stories



Spread of Mughal miniatures

Tanjore paintings – Historical events , Gods and Goddesses



Mughal – Textile & Jewellery

Fine muslin,
Silk,
Velvet,
Brocade work



Silk



Velvet

Dhakai Muslin



Kinkhab

Mughal – Textile & Jewellery



Mughal Cuisines- Spices & Perfumes

Mughal cuisine was shaped by all kinds of influences: Iranian, Afghani, and Persian, (because of the dynasty's Central Asian roots) mixed in with Kashmiri, Punjabi and a touch of the Deccan.

15th century manuscript, **Ni'matnama (The Book of Delights)**

Sultan Ghiyas Shah, a sultan of Malwa

A Spice Mixture that
Can be added to Any
Dish

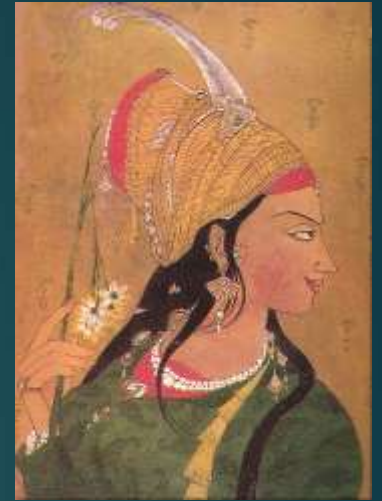
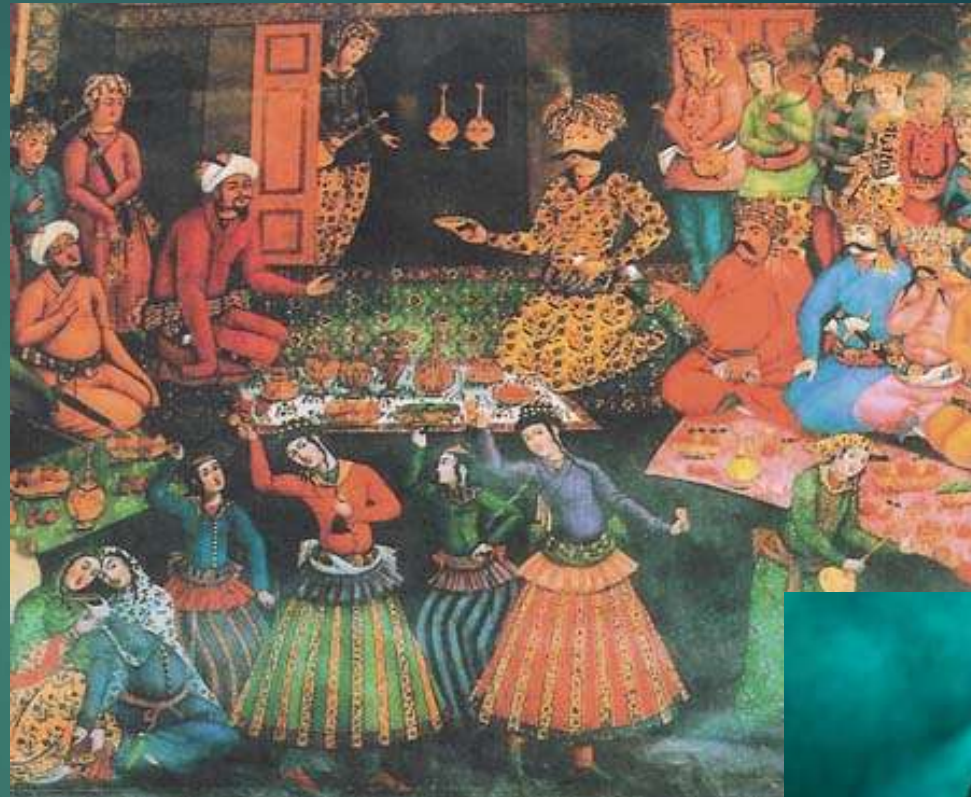
Four parts rosewater,
ten parts white hibiscus,
20 parts cardamom,
one part cloves and
four parts mace



The origin of many delicacies such as the

- [samosas](#) (fried meat-filled pastry)
- khichrī (a dish of rice and lentils),
- palv (pulā'o, or a dish with rice, meat and other ingredients),
- sīkh (skewered meat or fish),
- yaḳhñī (spiced meat broth) and
- kabāb (skewered or roast meat),
- kaḥī (a yoghurt or sour milk based dish combined with chickpea flour),
- pīccha (a dish prepared by adding ingredients to the surplus water that is left in the pot after cooking rice or other grains) and
- khaḥdawī (swollen parched grain) are attributed to Indo-Persian diet

Mughal – Poetry , Music & Dance



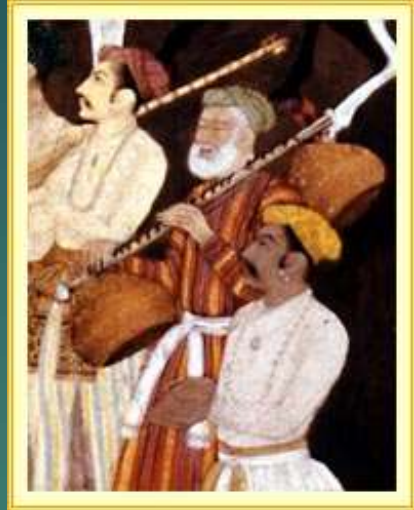
Kathak
through
the
ages



Kathakars – Bhakti influence
Persian dervish influence in
Mughal courts



Sufi Kathak



Rudra Veena



Sur Das
Tansen
Ali Khan
Kaori

Hindustani – Carnatic Classical Music
Monophonic – employing a Tanpura

Dhrupad, Khayal, Tarana, Dhamar, Tappa,
Thumri, Kajari, Ghazal, Ashtapadi , Bhajan

Sufi Music : Rumi, Hafiz Shirazi

The Sufi conception of love was introduced first by [Rabia of Basra](#), (Iraq) a female mystic from the 8th century.



Tyagaraja, [Shyama Shastri](#) and [Muthuswami Dikshitar](#),

Bhakti Movement – Kirtan, Padavali literature



Theistic devotional trend that emerged in medieval Hinduism

Originated in eighth-century south India spread northwards from Tamil Nadu through Karnataka and gained wide acceptance in fifteenth-century Bengal and northern India.

It swept over east and north India from the 15th century onwards, reaching its zenith between the 15th and 17th century CE.

The Bhakti movement regionally developed around different gods and goddesses, and some sub-sects Vaishnavism (Vishnu), Shaivism (Shiva), Shaktism (Shakti goddesses), and Smartism.

Bhakti movement preached using the local languages so that the message reached the masses. The movement has traditionally been considered as an influential social reformation in Hinduism, and provided an individual-focused alternative path to spirituality regardless of one's caste or gender.

The movement was inspired by many poet-saints, who championed a wide range of philosophical positions ranging from theistic dualism of Dvaita to absolute monism of Advaita Vedanta.

A revival, reworking and recontextualisation of ancient Vedic traditions.^[10]

Scriptures of the Bhakti movement include the Bhagavad Gita, Bhagavata Purana and Padma Purana.



The movement started with the Saiva [Nayanars](#) and the Vaisnava [Alvars](#), who lived between 5th and 9th century AD. Their efforts ultimately helped spread *bhakti* poetry and ideas throughout India by the 12th–18th century CE.

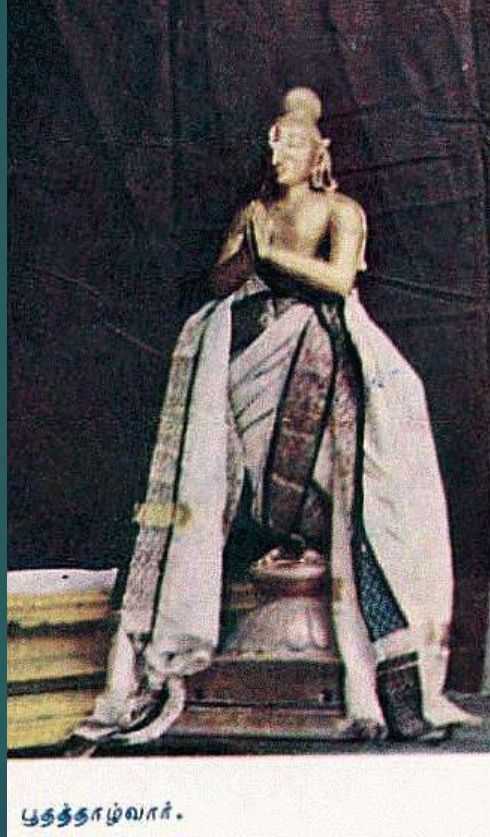
The Alvars, which literally means "those immersed in God", were Vaishnava poet-saints who sang praises of Vishnu as they travelled from one place to another.

The Bhakti movement witnessed a surge in Hindu literature in regional languages, particularly in the form of devotional poems and music from :

the [Alvars and Nayanars](#), poems of [Andal](#), [Basava](#), [Bhagat Pipa](#), [Allama Prabhu](#), [Akka Mahadevi](#), [Kabir](#), [Nanak](#), [Tulsidas](#), [Gusainji](#), [Ghananand](#), [Ramananda](#), [Sripadarajaa](#), [Vyasa-tirtha](#), [Purandara Dasa](#), [Kanakadasa](#), [Vijaya Dasa](#), Six goswamis of Vrindavan , [Raskhan](#), [Ravidas](#), [Jayadeva Goswami](#), [Namdev](#), [Eknath](#), [Tukaram](#), [Mirabai](#), [Ramprasad Sen](#), [Sankardev](#), [Vallabha Acharya](#), [Narsinh Mehta](#), [Gangasati](#) and the teachings of saints like [Chaitanya Mahaprabhu](#).



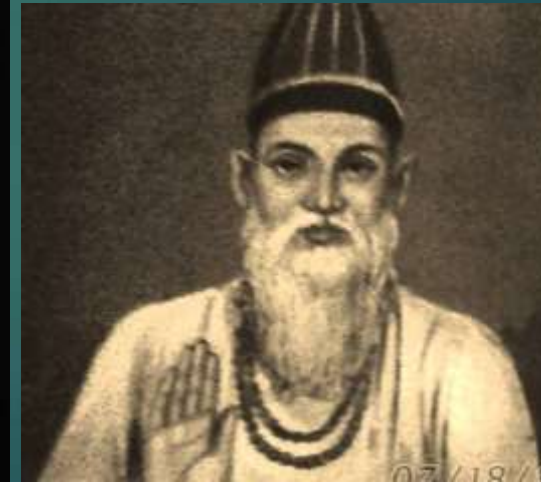
Kannappa Nayanar



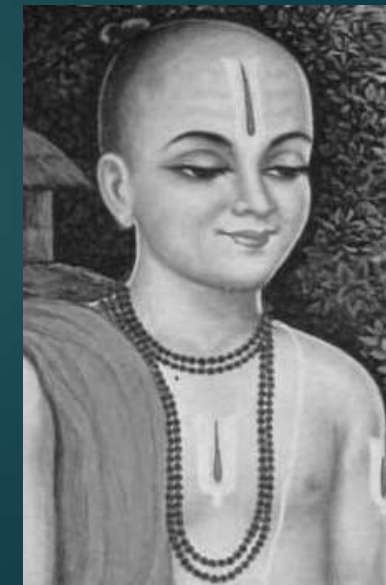
Alvar saint



Andal



Kabir



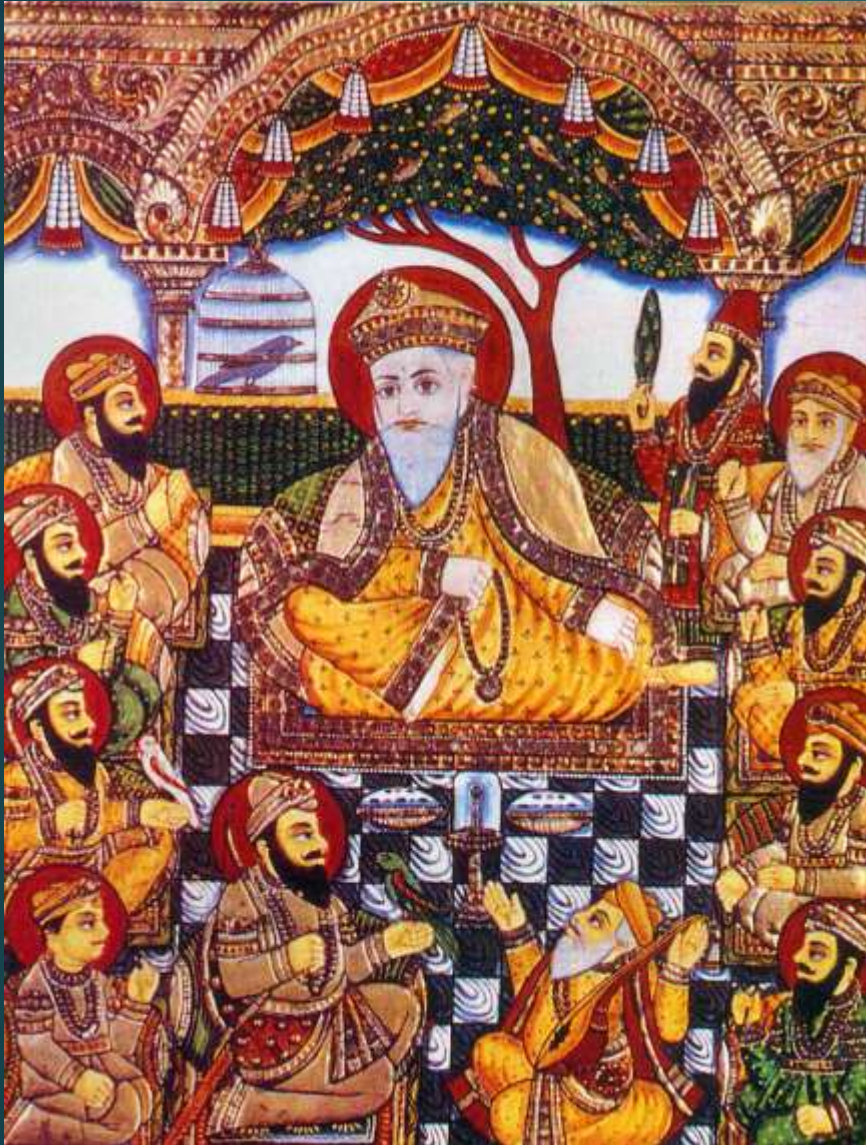
Tulsidas

Sankirtan : Ritualistic devotional chanting of the God's name .



For life events eg. Birth, Marriage, Rice eating ceremony, Karnachhed , Shraddha.

Sikhism



Sikh, meaning a "disciple", "seeker," or "learner")

Sikhism originated in the Bhakti tradition at the beginning of the 16th century.

Meditation on the name of the one creator

Sikhs refer to the hymns of the Gurus as Gurbani .
Shabad Kirtan is the singing of Gurbani.

The entire verses of Guru Granth Sahib are written in a form of poetry and rhyme to be recited in thirty one Ragas of the Classical Indian Music as specified.



Padavali Literature – Ashtapadis



The Mughal - Maratha Period

Terracotta Temples – Bishnupur (1600- 1726)



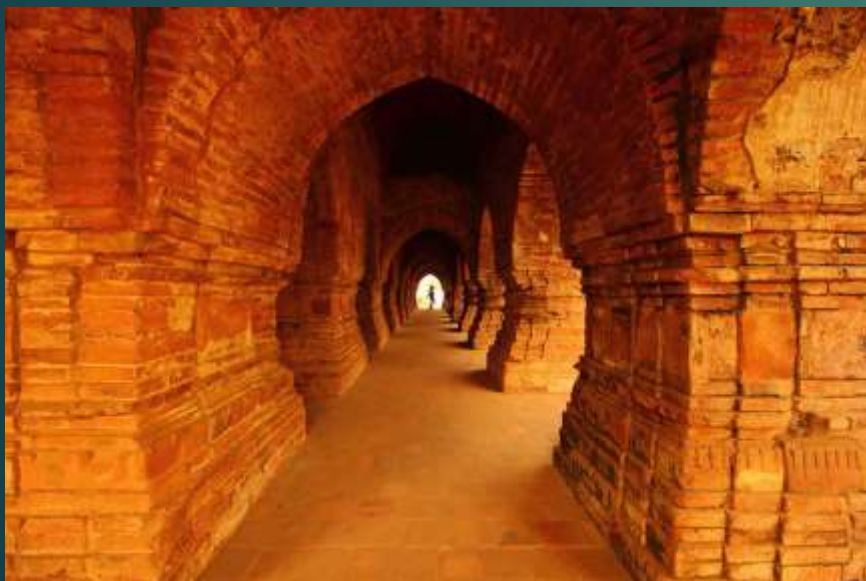
Ras mancha

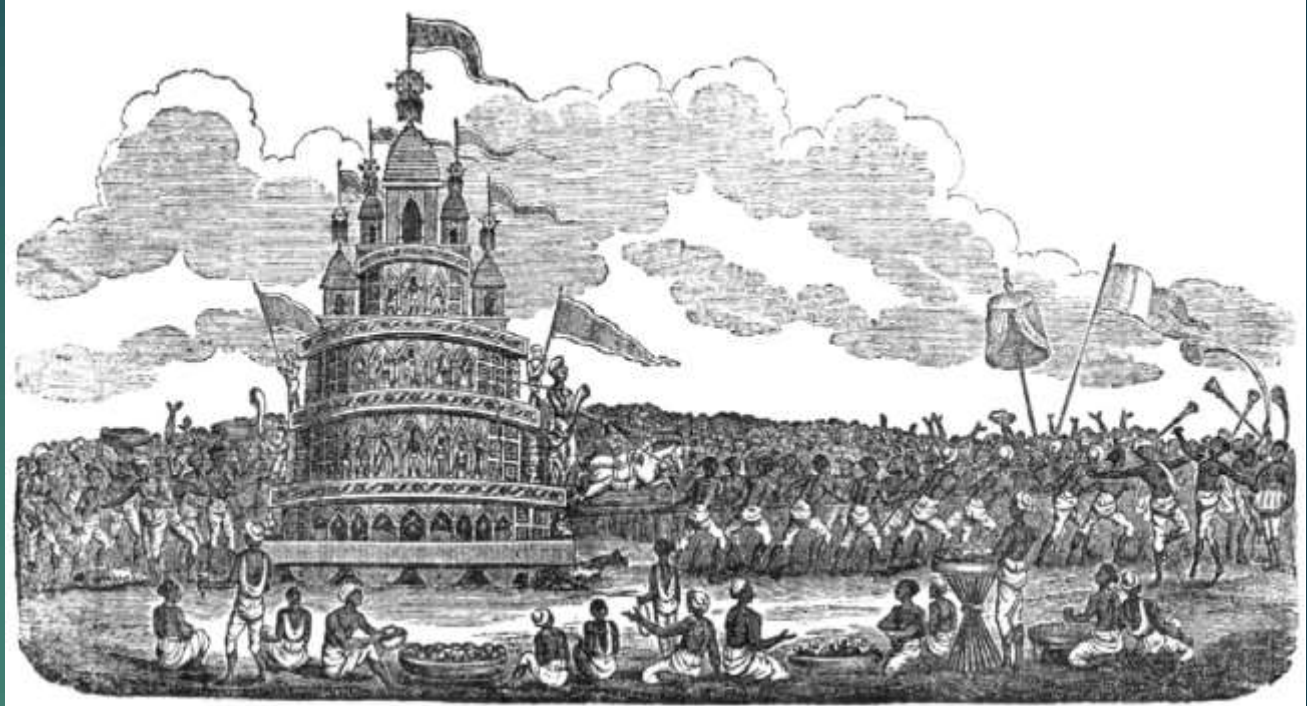


Jor Bangla



Pancha Ratna





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