Overview

- The Mughal Empire was one of the 3 major Asian Empires of the early modern Era
- The other 2 were the Safavid (Persia) (1502-1736)
- Ming/Qing (China) (1416-1911)
Overview
• Mughal India was central in the role of Asian Trade
• It was the midway point from Africa to China in the Indian Ocean
• At it’s height, the Mughal Empire held a population between 100 and 150 million people
Key Products of Trade
Background

- The Mughal Empire was founded by Babur (1483-1530) a Muslim descendant of Genghis Khan in the year 1526
Composite Bow
Mughal Empire

- The Mughal Empire was climbing steadily but saw its height with the emperor, Aurangzeb (1618-1707)
- Aurangzeb is the son of Shah Jahan (1592-1666) and Mumtaz Mahal (1593-1631)

His parents are most famous for the Taj Mahal
Taj Mahal
Indian Craftsmanship
The Beginning and The End

• It was a common tradition within the Mughal Empire that the transition of power was a situation of war and conflict

• Aurangzeb was the one of 4 sons. The oldest Dar Shikoh was chosen. The 3 other sons prepared their armies and fought

• Aurangzeb went north, imprisoned his father and then killed his brothers
The Beginning and The End

• Aurangzeb gave himself the name, Alamgir which means “world seizer”

• He takes the throne in 1659
The Beginning and The End

- The new emperor is able to take territory in modern day Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh
- He is also able to push southward into India
- Only one rebel gave him problems, Shivaji (1627-1680) of the Maratha
Shivaji

- Shivaji was an ally of Aurangzeb prior to his ascension to the throne
- Shivaji wished to establish a Hindu Kingdom instead of living with Muslims
- He fought against his friend however died of illness
Cost of War

• Aurangzeb was relentless with the destruction of his former friend
• The cost of war was growing
• Taxes were placed on non-Muslim faiths causing a huge rift within India
Cost of War

- The taxes and treatment of non-Muslim citizens triggered more rebellions across the Empire, the Sikhs in the Punjab region and Rajputs in northern India attacked
Raj put Warrior

YEAR - 900 AD
HEIGHT - 5' 6"
WEIGHT - 145 LBS
ARMOR - LEATHER & CHAIN MAIL
Cost of War

- The Marathas were finally able to gain power of the Mughals
- Aurangzeb dies in 1707 at the age of 88
- A war of succession among his children erupt with his 3rd son, Bahadur Shah I winning
- Bahadur quickly attempts to reverse many of the policies of his father but it is too late, the division between religions and groups is too far gone.
The End

- The remaining 10 Mughal Emperors between 1707-1857 could not undo the damage of the early wars.
- Invasions by the Persians, northern peoples from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, and European traders reduced the role of the Mughal to puppets.
- The British were able to purchase their way into power.