

TEXT BOOK Question Answer

3. What were the central provinces under the control of the Mughals?

Answer: The central provinces under the control of the Mughals were Delhi, Kabul, Mewar, Sindh, Marwar, Gujarat, Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Chittor and Deccan.

4. What was the relationship between the mansabdar and the jagir?

Answer:

- Mansabdars received their salaries as revenue assignments called jagirs
- The Mansabdars did not actually reside in or administer their jagirs.
- They only had the rights to the revenue of their assignments, which was collected for them by their servants while the mansabdars themselves served in some other part of the country.

5. What was the role of the zamindar in Mughal administration?

Answer:

- ‘Zamindar’ was a term used by the Mughals to describe all intermediaries, whether the local headmen of a village or any powerful chieftain.
- The role of the zamindar in Mughal administration was to collect the revenues and taxes from the peasants that were a source of income for the Mughals.

- They acted as an intermediate between the Mughals and the peasants and in some areas the zamindars exercised a great deal of power.

6. How were the debates with religious scholars important in the formation of Akbar's ideas on governance?

Answer:

- During the 1570s, Akbar had a discussion on religion with the Ulama, Brahmanas, Jesuit priests who were Roman Catholics and Zoroastrians.
- These discussions took place during his stay at Fatehpur Sikri in the ibadat khana.
- Akbar was interested in the religion and social customs of different people and his interaction with people of different faiths made him realise that their teachings created divisions and disharmony among his subjects.
- Thus, Akbar came up with an idea known as 'sulh-i kul', which focused on a system of ethics – honesty, justice and peace. Abul Fazl helped Akbar in framing a vision of governance around this idea of sulh-i kul, which was also followed by Jahangir and Shah Jahan as well.

7. Why did the Mughals emphasise their Timurid and not their Mongol descent?

Answer:

- From their mother's side, the Mughals were descendants of Genghis Khan (died 1227), the Mongol ruler who ruled over parts of China and Central Asia.
- From their father's side, they were the successors of Timur (died 1404), the ruler of Iran, Iraq and modern-day Turkey.

