

# India and the Mughal Empire

Invasions from Central Asia spread Islam into Hindu India. Mughal invaders ruled the greatest Islamic empire in India.

- As early Islamic rulers weakened, India was divided into many independent states. Some remained Islamic, others were led by Hindus.
- About 100 years later, Mughal rulers restored Islamic rule to nearly all of India.
- Later wars between Muslim and Hindu states allowed European colonizers to gain control in the region.



**B** Babur, a descendant of Genghis Khan, founded the Mughal Empire.

Area shown in maps A, C, and D



**A** Turks from what is now Afghanistan once ruled most of India and spread the Islamic faith.



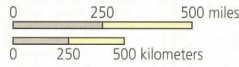
## What is a Mughal?

**Mughal**, also *Mogul*, comes from the Persian word for Mongol. The founders of the Mughal Empire claimed to be descendants of the Mongols.

### Rise of the Mughal Empire 1526–1707

- Mughal Empire at death of Babur, 1530
- Mughal Empire's greatest extent, 1707
- Maratha Kingdom
- European trade settlement

See complete legend at map A.

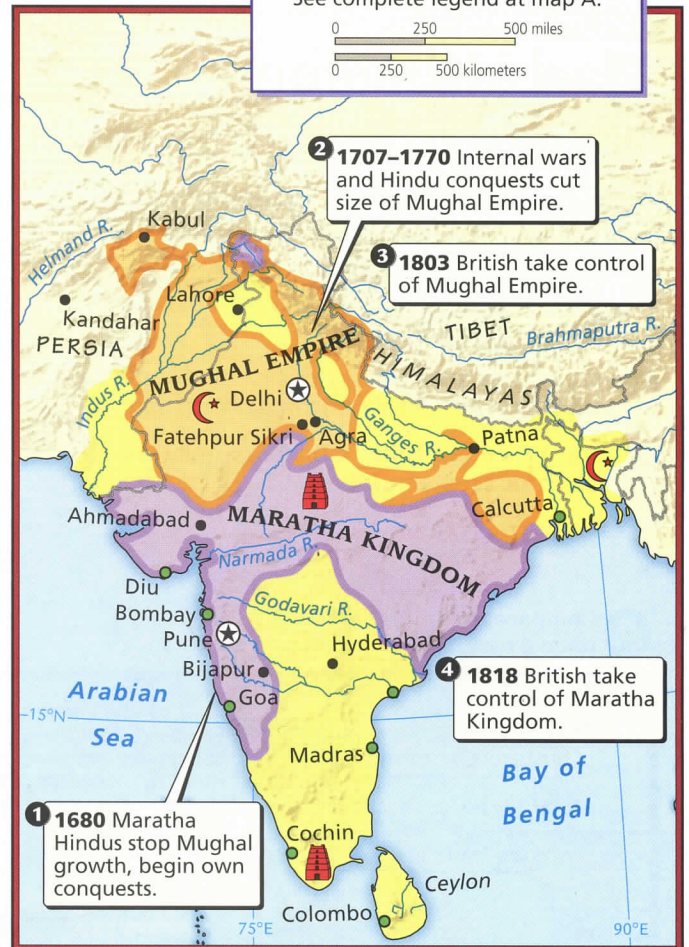
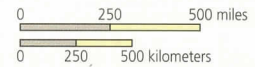


**C** Early Mughal emperors encouraged peace between Hindus and Muslims. The persecution of Hindus by later Mughal rulers led to uprisings in the south.

### The Maratha Kingdom and the Mughal Empire 1680–1818

- Mughal Empire, 1765
- Maratha Kingdom, 1750
- European trade settlement

See complete legend at map A.



**D** Find the Hindu Maratha Kingdom on the map. Compare this area with the same kingdom as shown on map C.



**E** The Taj Mahal, a magnificent tomb in Agra, was built for a Mughal empress. It was completed in 1648, after 22 years of work.