

HANDOUT

CHAPTER- 5 (MODULE-2/2) Rulers and Buildings

CLASS VII

SUBJECT- HISTORY

Gardens, Tombs, and Forts

During Mughal period architecture took a drastic turn giving the world beautiful monuments and buildings which were built by famous emperors like Akbar, Shahjahan, Humayun, Babar etc., and especially Shahjahan who built the Taj Mahal. He provided India with one of the seven wonders of the world.

Babur was keen in building Gardens – one of which is Chahar Bagh, they were called so as they were symmetrically divided into four quarters. Similarly Jahangir, Akbar also built these gardens whereas Shahjahan built Tajmahal. They also built audience hall to communicate king's justice. Their architectural features suggest the idea of King as a representative of God on earth.

Shah Jahan's audience hall aimed to communicate that the king's justice would treat the high and the low as equals creating a world where all could live together in harmony. Mughals started building their architectures on the riverfront to add to their beauty. Shah Jahan adapted the river-front garden in the layout of the Taj Mahal, the grandest architectural accomplishment of his reign.

Region and Empire

During eighth and eighteenth century there were sharing of ideas of architecture among the religions and different empires. In Vijayanagara, the elephant stables of the rulers were strongly influenced by the style of architecture found in the adjoining Sultanates of Bijapur and Golconda . As Mughals adopted the Bengal Dome in their architecture. Akbar's capital Fatehpur Sikhri show various architecture inspiration from Gujrat and Malwa.
