Visualizing the Elements of Political Rank and Hierarchy in the Mughal Era, 1556-1627

Penn Undergraduate Research Mentorship 2020
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Name and Title	First Ref w/ Listed Mansab	Last Ref w/ Listed Mansab	Reductions
Sultan Salim; Shahzada Sultan Salim; Prince Salim	A88: (1577-8 A.D.) Present rank = 10,000/X	A845: (1603-4 A.D.) Previous rank = 12,000/X Appointments: Subedar of ...	A480: (1595-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 12,000/X → Present rank = 10,000/X
Sultan Murad; Prince Murad; Shahzada Shah Murad	A90: (1577-8 A.D.) Present rank = 7,000/X	A781: (1598-9 A.D.) Died 8,000/X Appointments: Subedar of the Deccan (A.C.)	A481: (1595-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 9,000/X → Present rank = 8,000/X
Khan-i A'zam; Mirza 'Aziz Koka, A'zam Khan; Mirza 'Aziz Koka Khan-i A'zam; Mirza Aziz Koka, Khan-i A'zam; Khan-i A'zam Mirza 'Aziz Koka; Mirza 'Aziz Koka	A129: (1580-1 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X Appointments: Hakim of Bengal Titles: Khan-i A'zam	A913: (1605-6 A. D.) Previous rank = 7,000/6,000 → Promotion = 1,000 sawar → Present rank = 7,000/7,000	
Man Singh; Man Singh (now Farzand); Man Singh (now Raja); Raja Man Singh	A289: (1589-90 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X Titles: Raja	A911: (1605-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/X → Present rank = 7,000/6000	
Sultan Daniyal; Prince Daniyal; Shahzada Sultan Daniyal	A91: (1577-8 A.D.) Present rank = 6,000/X	A905: (1604-5 A.D.) Died 7,000/X Appointments: Subedar of the Deccan (A.C.)	
Zain Khan s/o Khwaja Maqsud Harvi; Zain Khan Koka	A193: (1585 A.D.) Promotion = +X → Present rank = 2,500/X	A821: (1601-2 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/5,000 Appointments: Subedar of Kabul (A.C.)	A491: (1595-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/X → Present rank = 4,500/X
Qulij Muhammad Khan	A412: (1593-4 A.D.) Present rank = 4,000/X	A889: (1604-5 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/5,000 → Present rank = 5,000/5,000 Appointments: Subedar of Lahore (H)	
Mirza Muzaffar Husain s/o Sultan Husain Mirza Qandahari; Muzaffar Husain Mirza Qandahari	A465: (1594-5 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X	A775: (1598-9 A.D.) Reduction = Retired 5,000/4,000	
Mirza Shahrukh s/o Mirza Ibrahim; Mirza Shahrukh	A326: (1592-3 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/- Appointments: Subedar of Malwa	A752: (1596-7 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/X → Present rank = 5,000/2,500	
Rai Patar Das; Rai Patar Das Khattari; Rai Patar Das (now Rai Rayan); Rai Patar Das, Rai Rayan; Rai Rayan (now Raja Bikarmajit)	A401: (1593-4 A.D.) Present rank = Above 500/X Appointments: Hakim of Thatta (H)	A857: (1603-4 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/1,000 → Promotion = +X → Present rank = 5,000/1,000 Titles: Bikarmajit	
Shaikh Farid; Shaikh Farid Bukhari; Shaikh Farid Bukhari, Murtaza Khan	A200: (1585 A.D.) Present rank = 700/X	A914: (1605-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 4,000/2,000 → Promotion = (1,000/X) → Present rank = 5,000/X Appointments: Mir Bakhshi (H)	
Husain Quli Khan (now Khan-t-Jahan); Khan-i Jahan; Husain Quli Khan Khan-i Jahan	A42: (1575-6 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X Appointments: Hakim of Punjab (H)	A113: (1579-80 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X Appointment: Hakim of Bengal (A.C.)	
Mirza Khan; Mirza Khan (now Khan-i-Khanan); Mirza Khan, Khan-i Khanan; Abdur Rahim, Khan-i Khanan	A178: (1584-5 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X Appointments: Subedar of ...	A882: (1604-5 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/X Appointments: Subedar of the Deccan	
Shahabuddin Ahmad Khan Nishapuri; Shahabuddin Khan; Shahabuddin Ahmad Khan	A65 (1576-7 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X Appointments: Hakim of Malwa	A300: (1590-1 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Qutbuddin Khan; Qutbuddin Khan (now Beglarbegi)	A66: (1576-7 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X	A182: (1584-5 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Raja Bhagwant Das	A191: (1585 A.D.) Promotion = +X → Present rank = 5,000/X	A288: (1589-90 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Wazir Khan; Wazir Khan b/o Asaf Khan Harvi	A235: (1585-6 A.D.) Present rank = 4,000/X Appointments: Jointly Subedar of Bengal	A273: (1588-9 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X Appointments: Subedar of Bengal (A.C.)	
Sa'id Khan Chaghta	A357: (1593-4 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X Appointments: Subedar of Bengal (H)	A488: (1595-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/X → Present rank = 5,000/X	
Tarsun Muhammad Khan; Tarsun Khan	A40: (1574-5 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X Appointment: Hakim of Bhakkar	A177: (1584-5 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Shah Beg Khan Kabuli Arghun; Shah Beg Khan s/o Ibrahim Beg Harmak; Shah Beg Khan	A320: (1592-3 A.D.) Present rank = 2,500/X	A832: (1602-3 A.D.) Previous rank = 3,500/X → Promotion = (1,500/X) → Present rank = 5,000/X Appointments: Nazim of Qandahar and Ghaznin (H)	
Abul Fazl s/o Shaikh Mubarak; Abul Fazl; Shaikh Abul Fazl	A204: (1585 A.D.) Present rank = 1,000/X	A828: (1602-3 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Shah Quli Khan Mahram Bharlu; Shah Quli Khan Mahram	A365: (1593-4 A.D.) Present rank = 3,000/X Appointments: Subedar of Agra (H)	A810: (1601-2 A. D.) Reduction Died 5,000/X Appointments: Subedar of Kabul (A.C.)	A495: (1595-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 4,000/X → Present rank = 3,500/X
Raja Jagan Nath; Jagan Nath s/o Raja Bhar Mal; Jagan Nath	A375: (1593-4 A.D.) Present rank = 3,000/X	A799: (1600-1 A.D.) Previous rank = 3,000/X → Promotion = (2,000/X) → Present rank = 5,000/X	A501: (1595-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 3,000/X → Present rank = 2,500/X
Sadiq Muhammad Khan Hirati; Sadiq Khan; Muhammad Sadiq Khan; Sadiq Muhammad Khan s/o Baqar Khan; Sadiq Muhammad Khan	A360: (1593-4 A.D.) Present rank = 4,000/X	A754: (1596-7 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	A494: (1595-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/X → Present rank = 4,000/X
Mirza Rustam Safavi; Rustam Mirza; Mirza Rustam b/o Mirza Muzaffar Husain	A394: (1593-4 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X	A486: (1595-6 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X	
Sultan Khusrau; Shahzada Sultan Khusrau	A356: (1593-4 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X	A910: (1605-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/X → Present rank = 2,000/X	A910: (1605-6 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/X → Present rank = 2,000/X
Mirza Jani Beg; Mirza Jani Beg Tarkhan	A196: (1585 A.D.) Present rank = 3,000/X	A772: (1598-9 A.D.) Reduction = Died 3,500/X	A332: (1592-3 A.D.) Previous rank = 5,000/X → Present rank = 3,000/X Appointment: Subedar of Multan
Mir Muhammad Khan Atka, Khan-i Kalan		A52: (1575-6 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Raja Bhar Mal		A39: (1574-5 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Munim Khan, Khan-i Khanan		A50: (1575-6 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Qiya Khan Gung		A144: (1581-2 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X Appointments: Subedar of Orissa (A.C.)	
Muqim 'Arab, Shaja'at Khan n/o Tardi Beg		A131: (1580-1 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X Appointments: Subedar of Malwa (A.C.)	
Mirza Sharfuddin Husain s/o Khwaja Mu'in		A140: (1580-1 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Mirza Sulaiman s/o Mirza Khan		A274: (1588-9 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Muhammad Quli Khan Barlas		A36: (1574-5 A.D.) Reduction = Died 5,000/X	
Khan-i Dauran Kabuli		A920: (1605 A.D.) Present rank = 5,000/X	
Mirza Yusuf Khan, Mirza Yusuf Khan s/o Mir Ahmad Rizvi; Mirza Saiyid Yusuf Khan	A195: (1585 A.D.) Promotion = +X → Present rank = 2,500/X	A823: (1601-2 A.D.) Reduction = Died 4,500/X	
Mirza Ja'far Beg, Asaf Khan; Ja'far Beg, Asaf Khan	A395: (1593-4 A.D.) Present rank = 2,000/X	A867: (1604-5 A.D.) Previous rank = 2,000/X → Promotion = (2,000/2,000) → Present rank = 4,000/2,000 Appointments: Subedar of Bihar	

Overview: During Akbar's reign as the Mughal emperor from 1556 to 1627, the empire saw tremendous expansion of its borders. We researched the empire's political hierarchy and tracked the occurrences of military campaigns to bring to Mughal scholarship a novel interpretation of the imperial bureaucracy that came to signify Akbar's empire.

Conclusion: The next step to advancing scholarship on the Mughal Empire calls for the use of data visualization tools to visually examine the empire's political reach across the Indian subcontinent through a geographic lense.

Figure 1: Top 40 Mansab Ranking
This table served as a crucial first step. After sorting through Akbar's mansabdaris, we compiled a list of the top 40 ranked jargirdars, using their final ranking before death or Akbar's reign end as an indicator of their rank.

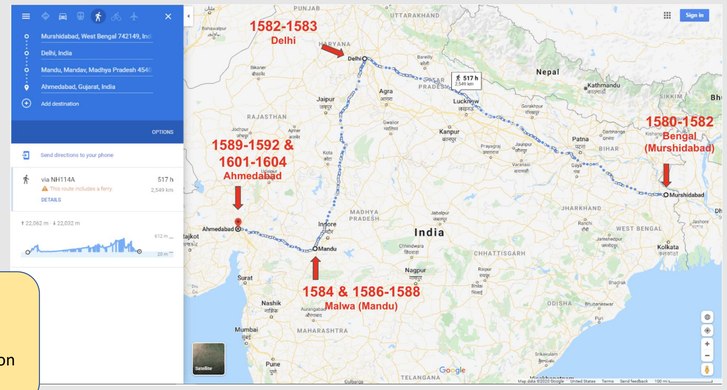

Figure 2: Man Singh's Appointments
After identifying influential jargirdars, we followed several of the most important commanders' path using their recorded location appointments and military campaigns.

Year	Month	State	City/Fort/River	Origin(O), Stop (S), Battle (B), Attemped Conquer (A), Seized by Opponent (SE), Conquered (C), Final Destination (F)?	Commander
1565	July	Orissa	Rohtas	C	
1574			Hajipur, Patna	A	Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1574	April		Fatehpur	F	Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1574	June		Agra	O	Akbar
1574	July		Allahabad	S	Akbar
1574	July		Banaras	S	Akbar
1574			Saidpur, Ghazipur	S	Akbar
1574			Jaunpur	S	Akbar
1574	July		Ganges	S	Akbar
1574	July		Chausa	S	Akbar
1574	August	Bihar	Patna Fort	C	Akbar
1574	August	Bihar	Hajipur	C	Akbar
1574	August		Dariyapur, Ghayaspur	S	Akbar
1574	August		Agra	F	Akbar
1574	September		Jaunpur	O	Akbar
1574			Khanpur	S	Akbar
1574	October		Sikandapur	S	Akbar
1574			Garthi	S	Akbar
1574			Tanda	S	Akbar
1574			Delhi	F	Akbar
1575	btw January and March	Bihar	Siwana	C	Akbar's Deputies
1575	March	Bengal	Tanda	O	Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1575		Bihar	Ghoraghat	S	Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1575		Bihar	Gwalpara	S	Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1575		Bihar	Dharpur	S	Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1575		Orissa	Medinipur	S	Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1575	April	Orissa		B	Todar Mal and Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1575		Orissa	Guttack Fort	C	Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1575	May	Orissa	Guttack	O	Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1575		Bengal	Tanda - fort of Gaur	F	Khan-i-Khanan Munim Khan
1576	March	Bengal	Tanda	SE	Mughal nobles
1576	March	Bihar	Hajipur	F	Mughal nobles
1576		Bihar	Hajipur	O	Khan Jahan
1576		Bengal	Garhi	C	Khan Jahan
1576		Bengal	Tanda	B	
1578	btw August and December	Bihar		F	Masum Khan
1581		Bengal	Tanda	SE	Muzaffar Khan (killed)
1581		Bengal	Munger	F	Todar Mal
1581			Garhi	C	
1583	March		Agra	O	Muhammad Sadiq Khan and Mirza Aziz Koka
1583	March	Bihar		F	Muhammad Sadiq Khan and Mirza Aziz Koka
1583	March - April	Bihar	Tanda	C	Muhammad Sadiq Khan and Mirza Aziz Koka

Figure 3: Military Campaigns in Eastern India
At this point, we shifted toward analyzing political geography, so we utilized our appointment and location data to divide campaigns by region. This data was then used to better understand how stable or rebellious specific regions of the empire were.

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Figure 4: QR Code for Mirza Aziz Koka DH Timeline (via Google Earth)
A main goal of ours throughout the entire project was to organize and present our project in a nuanced yet coherent manner. The last portion of project called for our team learning various digital humanities platforms such as Palladio, Knightlab, and ARCGis, and we applied our data into suitable platforms. Scanning the QR Code presents one of our first DH creations--the timeline of Mirza Aziz Koka, a powerful commander under Akbar.