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analyses rahul gandhi s appointment to assess  
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traveller arrives at sikri the court of mughal  
emperor akbar the tale he spins brings the  
whole imperial capital to the brink of obsession  
he calls himself mogor dell amore the mughal  
of love and claims to be the son of a lost  
princess whose name and very existence has  
been erased from the country s history qara köz  
or lady black eyes lady black eyes is a fabled  
beauty believed to possess great powers of  
enchantment and sorcery after a series of  
abductions by besotted warlords she finds  
herself carried to machiavellian florence in her  
attempts to command her own destiny in a  
world ruled by men lady black eyes brings  
together the two great cities of sensual florence  
and hedonistic sikri so far apart and yet so alike  
and two worlds become dangerously entwined  
vintage rushdie reminds us in case we may  
have forgotten that he can tell a story better  
than anyone else in the language sunday  
telegraph it is tough to be a famous junior and

more so when the senior happens to be akbar the mughal e azam this was the tragedy of jahangir it was a personal tragedy in which neither anarkali nor noor jahan had any role though popular stories associate these two women more than anyone else with jahangir jahangir s love for his father was deep and his admiration vast the events described in this book are based on the memoirs of akbar and jahangir and other historical records this comprehensive activity book and curriculum guide about the middle ages contains comprehension questions and answers maps and geography activities coloring pages lists of additional readings in history and literature and simple hands on activities designed for grades one through four the history of humayun humayun nama this innovative book explores of the grandest and longest lasting empire in indian history examines the history of the mughal presence in india from 1526 to the mid eighteenth century creates a new framework for understanding the mughal empire by addressing themes that have not been explored before subtly traces the legacy of the mughals world in today s india among many recent books on pakistan mr akbar s stands out a fine and detailed history of indian muslim anger and insecurity the economist in tinderbox india s leading journalist delivers a fascinating narrative history of pakistan chronicling the conflict between muslim and hindu cultures in south asia and describing the role that their relationship has played in defining both the

country and the region editorial director of india today and editor of the sunday guardian m j akbar gives readers an unprecedented look at pakistan past and present panoramic in scope but specific in detail with rich portraits of the central figures and events that have defined the nation s history akbar s tinderbox tells the pakistani story from the middle ages to the present puts the taliban and its place within modern islam into a meaningful context and diagnoses where the country is headed in the 21st century akbar was the greatest of the mughal emperors that ruled india he had to ascend the throne when he was just 15 but that did not deter him from becoming an efficient administrator though he was a muslim ruler he respected all the religions of india and brought about many reforms not only this he always welcomed talented people from various artistic fields like music painting etc the navaratna nine jewels 9 great and talented people that included birbal baz bahadur tansen and others had a very important place in his court the mughal empire prospered during his reign this book brings you the interesting story of this great ruler who is remembered even today as akbar the great and tells you the exciting events of his life this is part of the spectacular wilco picture library wpl slated to be a 500 plus titles series pioneering the innovative way of enlightening on various subjects in a fun filled way via a comic format artwork full of colorful illustrations along with simple but interesting narration and dialogues thereby making story

telling and enjoyable experience excerpt from india at the death of akbar an economic study the aim of this book is to present a sketch of the economic life of india at the opening of the seventeenth century that is to say at the period immediately antecedent to the first appearance of those new forces which were destined to exercise an increasing and eventually predominant influence on the development of the country if it be permissible to assign a precise date to what is essentially a gradual transition we may say that the medieval history of india ended and the modern history began in the year 1608 when the english ship hector reached surat starting from this date it is possible to trace the economic story of the next three centuries first in the narratives of travellers and the early letter books of the east india company and then in the more copious official records and publications of later times so that a well defined period for study is within the reach of our schools and universities provided that a suitable beginning can be made this book attempts to supply such a beginning by furnishing an account of the economic position at the close of akbar s reign there is i fear little prospect that adequate materials for a similar study of earlier periods will ever become available but our knowledge of the closing years of the sixteenth century appears to be sufficient to justify the attempt which i have made whether the attempt is successful is a question for the reader the materials which i have used seem to me to provide the basis for a

coherent and consistent account of the main currents of the economic life of india but i cannot claim that the account now offered is definitive about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks.com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works it is hard to imagine anyone succeeding more gracefully in producing a balanced overview than abraham eraly william dalrymple sunday times london in the mughal world abraham eraly continues his fascinating chronicle of the grand saga of the mughal empire in emperors of the peacock throne he gave us the story of the lives and achievements of the great mughal emperors in this book he looks beyond the momentous historical events to portray in precise and vivid detail the agony and ecstasy of life in mughal india combining scholarly objectivity with artful storytelling the author presents a lively panorama of the mughal world emperors and nobles at work and play harem life the profligacy and extravagance of the ruling class juxtaposed with the stark

wretchedness of the common people meticulously researched and lucidly narrated the mughal world offers rare insights into the state of the empire s economy religious policies the mughal army and its tactics and the glories of mughal art architecture literature and music recounts the wild adventures of prince akbar in the mountains between kandahar and kabul 1658 prince aurengzeb of india has imprisoned his own father murdered his brothers seized the throne of delhi and declared himself emperor he immediately begins a reign of tyranny invading neighbours banning music and the arts destroying temples and churches and unleashing terror on a vast kingdom comprising a fifth of the world s humanity during this time his own beloved daughter zebunissa forms a secret poetic society called the makhfi hidden one in persian through this society she practices the arts secretly and plans rebellions to overthrow her demonic father and restore justice in the kingdom bestowed the title of princess of india and then empress of india she dupes her father and his vicious nobles in a courageous and dangerous attempt to save her people from the emperor s tyranny part fiction and part history the hidden one brings a tear to the eye while thrilling the heart as we witness 17th century india through the eyes of an unsuspected character a muslim princess it narrates the powerful story of zebunissa and the makhfi the secret society that has been lost over time but deserves its rightful place in history for its role during one

of india s darkest eras available historical data has been analyzed to bring to light this obscure group about which very little has thus far been written or known an unforgettable cast of characters and progression of fateful events description conventional historical accounts tend to paper over seemingly minor events related to akbar s life to the detriment of a comprehensive appreciation of one of the most important figures of indian history shazi zaman fills the gap with this remarkable novel rooted in history akbar s writ ran from the hindukush in the west to the bay of bengal in the east an empire his father humayun and grandfather babur had only dreamed of and his religious policy boldly unorthodox was as fierce a contest with the clergy particularly islamic as were his military campaigns with his political opponents most histories give us akbar the commander who never lost on the battlefield and the fearlessly iconoclastic ruler but we rarely come across the restless questing soul who wished to reconcile a sensitive and compassionate heart to the sometimes ruthless obligations of statecraft and the man who in his struggle for sulh i kul peace with all could dare to treat as equal not only all faiths hinduism islam christianity jainism zoroastrianism and others but all life as well human or animal with a scholar s rigour and a storyteller s insight shazi zaman in this transcreation of his acclaimed hindi novel sifts through fact and many an anecdote to paint a complex yet enchanting portrait of one of the world s great monarchs

there isn't another book as vast in scope and as layered to help us fully understand the phenomenon that was akbar the unsparing pragmatist and benevolent ruler the austere leader and indulgent friend the unlettered prince and philosopher mystic the birth of a prince in medieval india was usually followed by grand celebrations camped out in the wilderness when the news of akbar's safe delivery reached him humayun could only enjoy a quiet moment of thanksgiving he broke a musk pod and as the fragrance wafted all over the camp the new father hoped his son's fame would similarly spread across the world akbar emperor warrior statesman and thinker is acknowledged as one of the most charismatic personalities in indian history crowned the king of hindustan at the age of thirteen his empire went on to include the farthest corners of the country yet he was not just a conqueror a humanist his deep interest in literature architecture art and his inclusive vision of religions at a time when such thoughts were not in fashion set him down as one of history's most remarkable men in this story of his life as exciting and thrilling as any adventure tale the author describes akbar's rough difficult childhood spent on the run his consolidation of the empire through war and diplomacy the myriad interesting and entertaining people who made up his court the strong women of the mughal household and finally the intriguing circumstances under which the crown passed on to his son jahangir accompanied by many

vignettes of information about the mughal empire and the world in the 16th century this book is a fascinating introduction to the life and times of a ruler who still rules our imaginations presents a history of the ancient world from 6000 b.c. to 400 a.d. broad in scope this interdisciplinary collection of original scholarship on historical film features essays that explore the many facets of this expanding field and provide a platform for promising avenues of research offers a unique collection of cutting edge research that questions the intention behind and influence of historical film essays range in scope from inclusive broad ranging subjects such as political contexts to focused assessments of individual films and auteurs prefaced with an introductory survey of the field by its two distinguished editors features interdisciplinary contributions from scholars in the fields of history film studies anthropology and cultural and literary studies this pivot explores the uses of the mughal past in the historical fiction of colonial india through detailed reconsiderations of canonical works by rudyard kipling flora annie steel and romesh chunder dutt the author argues for a more complex and integral understanding of the part played by the mughal imaginary in colonial and early indian nationalist projections of sovereignty evoking the rich historical and transnational contexts of these literary narratives the study demonstrates the ways in which at successive moments of crisis and contestation in the later raj the british indian

state continued to be troubled by its early and profound investments in models of despotism first located by colonial administrators in the figure of the mughal emperor at the heart of these political fictions lay the issue of territoriality and the founding problem of a british claim to sole proprietorship of indian land a form of orientalist exceptionalism that at once underpinned and could never fully be integrated with the colonial rule of law alongside its recovery of a wealth of popular and often overlooked colonial historiography the return of the mughal emphasises the relevance of theories of political theology from carl schmitt and ernst kantorowicz to talal asad and giorgio agamben to our understanding of the fictional and jurisprudential histories of colonialism this study aims to show just how closely the pageantry and romance of empire in india connects to its early politics of terror and even today continues to inform the figure of the mughal in the sectarian politics of hindu nationalism akbar the great is a very familiar figure to most indians hailed as a brilliant warrior a great administrator and a visionary ruler whose ideas of pluralism and tolerance sought to unify india with all its diversity of peoples and religions he is also an increasingly contested figure in the national discourse and familiar though he might be akbar is a mystery too locked in his own legend a man to admire but difficult to know what was akbar really like as a child a father a friend a foe what were his moods like his anger his melancholy his

passions and his laughter how did a thirteen year old fatherless boy surrounded by ambitious advisors and warlords become one of the world's most powerful monarchs and how did he deal with his dizzying rise was akbar a sceptic or did he believe he had divine miraculous powers with revealing psychological insights into akbar's complex and magnetic personality this biography is also the story of how akbar's ideas and ideals of kingship evolved through his reign of how he came to concentrate in himself both political and religious authority of his instances of megalomania his doubts and his yearning for justice rich in detail and with a cast of unforgettable characters it sparkles with humor and drama too as it vividly evokes the world he lived in deeply researched and beautifully written parvati sharma's portrait of akbar the great brings alive as never before a man imperfect and extraordinary who ruled for fifty years and has lived in the indian imagination for close to half a millennium set in the tumultuous aftermath of the iranian revolution in 1979 remembering akbar weaves together the stories of a group of characters who share a crowded death row cell in tehran's notorious evin prison a teeming world is evoked vividly through the relationships memories and inner lives of these political prisoners many of whom were eventually executed told through a series of linked memories by the narrator akbar whose striking candor is infused with a mordant sense of humor the story takes the

reader beyond mere political struggles and revelations to a vibrant alternative history written as it were by the losers the characters whose stories akbar recounts are brought to life within the mundane rhythms of a bleak institution in its simple pleasures as well as its frequent horrors and in the unexpected connections that emerge between the world inside and a past before imprisonment rather than exalting the heroic or choosing to focus merely on despair or redemption remembering akbar reveals eloquently how life unfolds when death is starkly imminent it is a deeply moving story of great camaraderie biting humor and soulful remembrance mango trees are court witnesses magical sticks identify thieves birbal must take a trip to heaven the friendship between emperor akbar and his minister birbal created history and some delightful stories the tales of akbar and birbal have been passed on from generation to generation enthralling young and old listeners alike this book brings together a selection of these stories along with fascinating historical details about the mughal court the emperor and his witty courtier with well researched introductions to each aspect of mughal life amita sarin recreates akbar's court in all its grandeur and vitality the stories in this collection are both amusing and thought provoking both historical and timeless the contributions in this festschrift extend over the whole range of indian civilization in the first part the earlier stages of indian history spanning the period from the indus civilization

up to medieval times and in the second part the more recent history of south asia in 680 c e a small band of the prophet muhammads family and their followers led by his grandson husain rose up in a rebellion against the ruling caliph yazid the family and its supporters hopelessly outnumbered were massacred at karbala in modern day iraq the story of karbala is the cornerstone of institutionalized devotion and mourning for millions of shii muslims apart from its appeal to the shii community invocations of karbala have also come to govern mystical and reformist discourses in the larger muslim world indeed karbala even serves as the archetypal resistance and devotional symbol for many non muslims until now though little scholarly attention has been given to the widespread and varied employment of the karbala event in reliving karbala syed akbar hyder examines the myriad ways that the karbala symbol has provided inspiration in south asia home to the worlds largest muslim population rather than a unified reading of islam hyder reveals multiple sometimes conflicting understandings of the meaning of islamic religious symbols like karbala he ventures beyond traditional scriptural interpretations to discuss the ways in which millions of very human adherents express and practice their beliefs by using a panoramic array of sources including musical performances interviews nationalist drama and other literary forms hyder traces the evolution of this story from its earliest historical origins

to the beginning of the twenty first century today karbala serves as a celebration of martyrdom a source of personal and communal identity and even a tool for political protest and struggle hyder explores how issues related to gender genre popular culture class and migrancy bear on the cultivation of religious symbols he assesses the manner in which religious language and identities are negotiated across contexts and continents at a time when words like martyrdom jihad and shiism are being used and misused for political reasons this book provides much needed scholarly redress through his multifaceted examination of this seminal event in islamic history hyder offers an original complex and nuanced view of religious symbols jahangir was the fourth of the six great mughals great grandson of babur and grandfather of aurangzeb and the least known among them his father akbar transformed the mughal kingdom into an empire and his reign is often considered an epoch in itself jahangir s son shahjahan built the tomb that tagore famously described as a teardrop on the cheek of time and was sometimes upheld as akbar s true heir jahangir on the other hand has the reputation of a weak man at best an alcoholic with an eye for art and greed for pleasure controlled by a powerful wife but far from being a disinterested prince and insignificant ruler jahangir showed tremendous ambition and strength throughout his life when his succession was threatened jahangir set up a rebel court in the face of the mighty akbar

himself while he made no conquests to match his father s jahangir was the first mughal to win the allegiance of the fearsome rajas of mewar and for all his reputed frivolity jahangir was the emperor who won his dynasty its glorious association with things of beauty and splendour and who wrote one of the most perceptive and entertaining imperial memoirs of all time the man who is most often defined by his relationships son of akbar father of shahjahan husband of nurjahan is here presented holistically as a canny ruler and conscientious administrator a keen and astute observer of human society and connoisseur with wide ranging interests in this marvellous work of popular history parvati sharma tells a compelling story of one of the most fascinating and undervalued rulers of india front dust jacket flap set in 16th century hindustan the modern day indian subcontinent emperor akbar discovers an incomplete astrological chart it may hold a secret that could threaten his life and the empire he assigns the sensitive task of uncovering the chart s mystery to his brilliant adviser mahesh das this journey takes mahesh to the heartland of hindustan mahesh however was not expecting to fall in love he is torn between his heart and his loyalty why did emperor akbar bestow the title of raja birbal on mahesh das his closeness to the emperor and meteoric rise spark jealous enemies to target him amid the backdrop of religious tensions in the empire akbar moves forward to promote religious tolerance and root out corruption

rebellions against akbar and personal attacks against raja birbal become more common after multiple attempts on birbal s life his enemies believe they are successful in 1586 while battling the hilly tribes of the northwest frontier raja birbal is declared dead but his body was never found what really happened in the story of india michael wood weaves a spellbinding narrative out of the 10 000 year history of the subcontinent home today to more than a fifth of the world s population india gave birth to the oldest and most influential civilization on earth to four world religions and to the world s largest democracy now as india bids to become a global economic giant michael sets out on an epic journey across this vibrant country to trace the roots of india s present in the incredible riches of her past the story of india is a magical mixture of history and travelogue and an unforgettable portrait of india past present and future akbar s india tells the story of akbar emperor of india 1556 1605 through eight paintings the paintings were selected from many produced in his workshops to tell the story of his remarkable reign the book was written and the different exercises were devised to encourage children to give the pictures more than a cursory glance to help them see the hidden history the drama the stories behind them the last section of the book labelled for the especially curious gives information sometimes quite lengthy about matters just touched on or not mentioned in the first section that he was a medieval king who

with a progressive bent of mind dared to look ahead to find that common ground for all his people to stand together that he was a medieval king who is today tempting us to look back into the past to see our future through his eyes ever since the bharatiya janata party led national democratic alliance government came to power in 2014 with narendra modi as the prime minister an organised campaign began to vilify emperor akbar and the mughals while there were always voices that tried to project the mughals as just another islamic empire ignoring the civilisational impact they had on india even for them akbar was a shining light in an otherwise era of darkness those talking in terms of easy binaries always found a good muslim in akbar and a bad muslim in aurangzeb academics and other liberals who could have countered this incorrect portrayal did not do it dismissing such claims as mere screeches by the fringe that do not deserve any attention but with the hindu right assuming political power the fringe today has become the mainstream and akbar is no longer the good muslim why is there such hatred for akbar once the most loved king in india what was the journey like from being great to not so great and how is this india different from akbar s hindustan has he become irrelevant in an india where growing hindu nationalism threatens to alter the nature of the indian state from a secular republic to a theocracy or is akbar even more relevant today given the backdrop of hate that we all find ourselves in allahu akbar seeks to find answers

to these questions while providing a profile sketch of the emperor his empire and his times birbal stories are very famous and popular in india among all ages of people they are also called by another name akbar birbal stories there was a mogul emperor in india akbar the great 1542 1605 his full name was jalaludden mohammed akbar padshah ghazi and he ruled india from 1560 to 1605 he himself was illiterate but he invited several learned people in his court among these people nine were very famous and were called nav ratna nine jewels of the mogul crown of his court among these nine jewels five people were more famous tansen todarmal abul fazal maan singh and birbal 1 tansen a great singer 2 dasvant a great painter 3 king todarmal a financial wizard 4 abdu us samad a brilliant calligrapher and designer of imperial coins 5 abul fazal a great historian whose brother was faizi 6 faizi a great poet 7 mir fareh ullah shirazi financier philosopher physician astronomer 8 king maan singh a great man known for his chivalry 9 birbal a great man known for his valuable advice akbar s son prince sultan salim later known as jehangir wrote that nobody could make out that akbar was an illiterate akbar was a very hard working king it is also said about him that he slept only three hours a night birbal 1528 1583 is surely one of the most popular figures in indian history equally regarded by adults and children birbal s duties in akbar s court were mostly administrative and military but he was a very close friend of akbar too because akbar loved

his wisdom wit and subtle humor he was a minister in the administration of mogul emperor akbar and one of the members of inner council of nine advisors he was a poet and an author too it is believed that he was a son of poor braahman of trivikrampur on the banks of river yamuna according to a popular legend he died on an expedition to afghanistan at the head of a large military force due to treachery it is also said that when birbal died akbar mourned him for several months the exchanges between akbar and birbal have been recorded in many volumes many of these have become folk stories in indian tradition birbal s collection of poetry published under the pen name brahm are preserved in bharatpur museum rajsthan india the amazing stories collection buy n a biographical fiction firmly grounded in the contemporary historical records travelogues and literature it is the story of akbar the great mughal enchantingly told and from a fresh angle all the events are historical and so are all the characters and by way of extensive notes and annexure at the end the book not only authenticates its assertions but also exposes attempted distortions of history and image of a man who comes closest to the philosopher king of plato akbar was a thinking man who made every idea and belief subservient to reason and guided by his rationalism he heralded renaissance in hindustan and took up an agenda of educational and social reforms many centuries before raja ram mohan roy would do in fact what modern india is today an open

tolerant society and a nation we owe it to him the book amply illustrates be a part of this exciting emotional journey have a glimpse of akbar s tormented childhood his fearful and uncertain adolescent years his romances his daredevilry on battlefields and enjoy his lively interactions with all the navratnas particularly birbal be his companion in the spiritual quest get enraptured by the passionate debates of ibadat khana brought alive dive deep in the profound discussions with philosophers trace his evolution as an enlightened man and the only secular ruler of the times follow his struggle to realize a vision of modern progressive hindustan and witness from close quarters his personal life as it unfolds a life of love friendship and loss the history of india has been marked with the rise and fall of many dynasties the mughal empire was one of the greatest and longest reigning empires on indian soil the foundation of the mughal empire was established by babar a great warrior and conqueror who could not assimilate indian values into the mughal administration which is why his successor humayun could not keep the throne his father had won it was akbar who had the vision to change the old system of governance and introduce a more secular and tolerant rule after reclaiming the delhi throne at the young age of 14 akbar established himself as a compassionate king an astute administrator and a virtuous secularist he fought many wars both on the battlefield and off of it at times as his new open minded ways

were not well accepted by all akbar s ambition was not to merely subjugate his indian subjects but to govern them in a way which was fair conducive to development and prosperity t h e r i s e o f t h e m u g h a l e m p i r e akbar and the rise of the mughal empire tells the story of akbar who started as a child prodigy and went on to become the greatest most revered kings of the mughal empire set in the tumultuous aftermath of the iranian revolution in 1979 remembering akbar weaves together the stories of a group of characters who share a crowded death row cell in tehran s notorious evin prison a teeming world is evoked vividly through the relationships memories and inner lives of these political prisoners many of whom were eventually executed told through a series of linked memories by the narrator akbar whose striking candor is infused with a mordant sense of humor the story takes the reader beyond mere political struggles and revelations to a vibrant alternative history as it were by the losers rather than exalting the heroic or choosing to focus merely on despair or redemption remembering akbar reveals eloquently how life unfolds when death is starkly imminent it is a deeply moving story of great camaraderie biting humor and soulful remembrance back cover the history of akbar by abu l fazl is one of the most important works of indo persian history and a touchstone of prose artistry it is at once a biography of the mughal emperor akbar that includes descriptions of his political and martial feats

and cultural achievements and a chronicle of sixteenth century india discover the remarkable history of the mughal empire for more than two hundred years the mughal empire dominated the indian subcontinent it became one of the largest empires on the planet with an army of almost one million men at arms and an economy that was stronger than any other at the time the mughal empire developed new art and architecture and some of the things created during this empire are still regarded as iconic representations of india although most of its conquests were achieved through the application of military power this was also a relatively liberal pluralist empire which successfully assimilated people from varied cultural and religious background into a total population of over one hundred and fifty million perhaps that is surprising given that this empire originated with an invasion by nomadic mongols from the north the very first mughal emperor was a direct descendent of both genghis khan and tamerlane then just when the mughal empire seemed to have become invincible it disintegrated in an astonishingly short space of time this book tells the story of how the mughal empire was able to achieve almost unimaginable power and wealth and how within the nature of that success were the elements which eventually tore the empire apart this is the complex exciting story of the rapid rise and even more rapid collapse of the mighty colorful vibrant and complex mughal empire discover a plethora of topics such as the



emergence of babur the reign of akbar the great consolidation and glory art architecture and science in the mughal empire decline of the mughal empire india falls under british control and much more so if you want a concise and informative book on the mughal empire simply scroll up and click the buy now button for instant access a glimpse into the heart and mind of a young girl who went on to become an important queen in the rajput kingdom of amber jodh bai daughter of king bihari mal is now a teenager her clan the kachhwahas are a proud warrior race but jodh bai is a dreamer and poet at heart when she picks up an empty accounting book and starts writing her thoughts in it she ends up recording the

happenings in the world around her the joys sorrows and ambitions of the women the brothers and uncles who are trained to be warriors the beauty of the arid landscape and the politics of the times that is bringing the mughals from distant agra closer and closer to rajasthan then one day she is told something unbelievable she is going to wed the mughal emperor akbar how will jodh bai a hindu princess live in the mughal zenana will she find a true companion in akbar and what will life be like away from her beloved rajasthan history does not record the existence of jodh bai instead akbar s rajput wife is only referred to by the royal title of mariam us zamani but in this heartfelt fictional diary subhadra sen gupta skilfully brings alive the story of a young rajput

princess who went on to become a powerful queen of the mughal empire if we look at a map of asia we shall notice what looks like a great red tongue stretching down into the waters of the southern ocean this is india a country as large as the continent of europe without russia it is the most beautiful part of asia containing ranges of huge mountains wide fertile plains wonderful forests and mighty rivers we shall find there numerous races of people whose forefathers came to india in great armies thousands of years ago and before they settled down in the country fought and conquered the people who were there before them in this book acclaimed writer ira mukhoty covers akbar s life and times in lavish illuminating detail