History and Culture of India Before 1750  
Muslim India

History/Asian Studies 346M/RS 341/ISL 372 – Fall 2012  
Gail Minault
Unique #s: 39340/31580/43730/41480  
Office: GAR3.118
MWF 10-11, GAR 1.126

Textbooks

Required:
Catherine Asher & Cynthia Talbot, India Before Europe
Ainslie Embree, ed. Sources of Indian Tradition Vol. I (2nd edn.)
Blair & Bloom, Islam: 1000 Years of Faith & Power

One of the following (for the first paper):
Ross Dunn, Adventures of Ibn Battuta
Amitav Ghosh, In an Antique Land

One of the following (for the second paper):
Francois Bernier, Travels in the Mogul Empire
Babur (tr. Thackston), The Baburnama

Readings and Visuals: Other readings are on Blackboard. The course also has a web page with some slide images. The website URL is: http://laits.utexas.edu/muslim_india/ (note underline between muslim and india). Links to the slides are at the bottom of that webpage. In addition, all the slides that I will show in class have been digitized and are available at dase.laits.utexas.edu. The various slide sets are in the Public/Shared area; click on that and scroll down until you get to “Minault… etc.” This is will be especially useful for review at the time of the midterm (slide recognition question), and for the slide quiz toward the end of the semester.

This course flies the Global Cultures (GC) flag. It will deal with the history, art and architecture, and religions of India during the period of Muslim rule, from the tenth to the eighteenth centuries. We will look at the emigre culture of the Sultanate period (ca. 1000-1500), and the composite culture of the the Mughal period (ca. 1500-1800), paying particular attention to the interaction of Islam with Indian religions, the development of distinctive architectural and artistic forms of expression, and the ideology and form of political institutions. Toward the end of the course, we will also look at the earliest contacts between Europe and India from the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries.

Requirements for the course include the assigned readings, 2 short papers, 2 map assignments, a mid-term, a slide quiz, and a take-home final essay. Since quite a few of the lectures involve art historical materials, the midterm will involve some, and the slide quiz will be exclusively, slide identifications. That means that class attendance is important, and that slide shows are not recreational. Papers will be two book reports on the choice of books listed above. See separate sheets for detailed map and paper assignments. Due dates are summarized below. Grades are given on the plus and minus
Percentages for the grade: papers: 20% & 25%; mid-term 20%; slide quiz 10%, final essay 25%. Maps are OK’d, not graded, but they count against you if not done. If they are not OK, however, you might have to redo them. The History Dept’s statement on plagiarism/academic dishonesty is in the Blackboard documents for this course. The university has an honor code. Take it seriously. Be wise, don’t plagiarize.

I enjoy meeting my students personally and urge you to visit my office at least once during the semester. My office is Garrison 3.118. My office hours are MW 1:30-3; or by appointment. Office phone, 475-7214; Email: gminault@austin.utexas.edu Please do not call me at home.

**Summary of due dates** (mark your calendars):
- Wednesday, Sept. 26: 1st Map
- Wednesday, Oct. 3: 1st Paper
- Wednesday, October 17: Midterm exam (no makeups; includes slides).
- Monday, October 29: 2nd Map
- Wednesday, Nov. 7: 2nd paper
- Friday, Nov. 16: Slide Quiz (no makeups)
- Friday, Dec. 7: Take-home essay questions will be handed out; it will be due on Saturday, December 15, between 9:00 AM and Noon, which is the day and time of the final exams scheduled for this class time. You may hand it in earlier, but NOT later. Please return it to my office (GAR 3.118) or the History Dept. office (GAR 1.104). I will accept email submissions.

**Please note** that assignments handed in late will be penalized (see paper assignment sheet for details). I accept medical excuses but only if you notify me of them by the due date of the assignment, with appropriate documentation. For exams, I expect you to be here except in cases of dire emergency (usually medical). If you have to miss an exam for any reason (religious holiday, academic trip out of town, scheduled surgery, etc.), you must notify me in advance. For students with disabilities: Please request appropriate academic accommodation from the Division of Diversity Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259. Do so early in the semester, so that appropriate measures can be taken before major assignments are due.

**Reading Assignments**

Aug. 29 - Introduction to the Course

Aug. 31 - The Indian Milieu
Read: Asher & Talbot, India Before Europe, pp. 1-9.  
Embree, Sources I, pp. 3-9, 29-30, 274-81.
Sept. 3 – Labor Day Holiday

Sept. 5 – Indian Social Structure: Caste in Theory and Practice
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 9-18.
Embree, Sources I, pp. 203-12, 213-17, 221-23, 234-38, 242-47.

Sept. 7 - The Religion of Islam
Read: Blair & Bloom, Islam, 27-75.

Sept. 10 – Muslims Arrive in India
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 18-24.
Sources I, pp. 381-91, 399-407.
B & B, Islam, pp. 103-130.

Sept. 12 – The Delhi Sultanate I
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 25-35.
Rec: Blair & Bloom, Art & Architecture of Islam, pp. 5-19 (not about India, but good background).

Sept. 14 - Delhi Sultanate II
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 35-52.
Michael Meister, "The 'Two and a Half Day' Mosque," Oriental Art (Spring 1972), BB.
Blair & Bloom, Art & Architecture, pp. 149-56.

Sept. 17 - The Court and the Religious Establishment
Read: Sources I, pp. 408-25, 430-46.
B & B, Islam, pp.159-80.

Sept. 19 - Religious and Cultural Assimilation: Bhakti
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 105-114.
Sources I, pp. 342-78.
Rec: E. Zelliot, “A Medieval Encounter Between Hindu and Muslim,” from R. Eaton, ed., India’s Islamic Traditions, pp. 64-82, BB.
Sept. 21 – Religious and Cultural Assimilation: Sufism
Read: Sources I, pp. 447-63, 483-89.
Rec: R. Eaton, “The Political & Religious Authority of the Shrine of Baba Farid,” from Eaton, ed., India’s Islamic Traditions, pp. 263-84, BB.

Sept. 24 – Shi’ism in India
Read (or review): B & B, Islam, pp. 49-75.
  AR Saiyid, "Moharram," from TN Madan, Religion in India, pp. 248-59, BB.
Rec: Vernon Schubel, “The Nature of Shi’ism in its South Asian Context,” from his Religious Performance in Contemporary Islam, pp. 11-33, BB.

Sept. 26 – Sikhism
Read: Sources I, pp. 493-509.
1st Map Assignment Due (see separate sheet)

Sept. 28 - Delhi Sultanate III – Lodhi Mosques & Tombs
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 115-16.

Oct. 1 - Decline of Delhi and the Rise of Regional Sultanates
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 84-105.

Oct. 3 - Regional Sultanates in North India: Jaunpur and Gujarat
1st Paper Due (see separate sheet)

Oct. 5 - Regional Sultanates in South India: The Bahmanids of the Deccan
Read: Asher and Talbot, pp. 53-83 (for the next 2 lectures).
  Richard Eaton, “The Articulation of Islamic Space in the Medieval Deccan,” from his Essays on Islam & Indian History, pp. 159-75, BB.
Rec: Blair & Bloom, Art & Architecture, 36-54 (not India, but useful comparisons).

Oct. 8 - The Empire of Vijayanagar

Oct. 10 - Regional Sultanates in South India: Successors to the Bahmanids in Bijapur and Golconda
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 163-85 (readings cont. on next p.).
C. Talbot, “Inscribing the Other, Inscribing the Self: Hindu-Muslim Identities in Pre-colonial India,” from R. Eaton, India’s Islamic Traditions, pp. 83-117, BB.

Oct. 12 - The Last Sultan: The Architecture of Sher Shah
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 116-123.

Oct. 15 – Review Session

Oct. 17 - Midterm Exam (no makeups; you must be here for this-- there will be some slides)

Oct. 19 - The Great Mughals I
Read: Asher & Talbot, 123-131.

Oct. 22 - The Mughal Pattern of Rule
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 144-51.
    Sources I, pp. 425-30.

Oct. 24 - Religion at Akbar's Court
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 129-31.
    Sources I, pp. 463-75.

Oct. 26 - The Architecture of Akbar: Fatehpur Sikri or the City of Victory
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 131-44.
    Blair & Bloom, Art & Arch., pp. 266-78.

Oct. 29 - Early Mughal Painting
    2nd Map Assignment Due (see separate sheet)

Oct. 31 - Jahangir and the Development of Mughal Architecture and Painting
Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 152-63.
    Blair & Bloom, Art & Arch., 176-81, 296-302.

Nov. 2 - The Great Mughals II
Read: Asher & Talbot, 186-207.
Rec: Satish Chandra, “Jizya and the State in India during the 17th Century,” from Eaton, India’s Islamic Traditions, pp. 133-49, BB.
Nov. 5 - Shahjahanabad and the Perfection of the Mughal Fort and City

Nov. 7 - Paradise on Earth: The Taj Mahal and Other Mughal Tombs and Gardens
    Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 225-231.
    **2nd paper due** (see separate sheet)

Nov. 9 - Religious Reform and Reaction
    Read: Sources I, pp. 428-30, 475-83.

Nov. 12 - Aurangzeb and the Decline of Mughal India
    Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 231-244.

Nov. 14 – Review Session

Nov. 16 - **Slide Quiz** (No makeup, obviously)

Nov. 19 – Mughal Literature: Persian and the Emergence of Urdu

Nov. 21 - Rajput Fortresses and Palaces
    Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 207-224.

Nov. 22-23 – Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov. 26 & 28 - Eighteenth Century India: Rise of Regional Kingdoms
    Read: Asher & Talbot, 244-55.

Nov. 30 - The Beginnings of European Trade and Influence: Portuguese and Dutch
    Read: Asher & Talbot, pp. 256-91 (for this and the lectures of 12/3 & 12/5)

Dec. 3 – The Beginnings of European Trade & Influence: British and French

Dec. 5 - Late 18th Century – The Contest for Control
Dec. 7 - Final Discussion and Review

**NB: Final essay questions will be handed out.** They will be due on Saturday, December 15, between 9:00 AM and Noon (which is the date and hour for the exam for this class time), NO LATER. Please hand them in at the History Dept. office: Garrison 1.104, or my office: Garrison 3.118. You may, alternatively, email me your papers.