

	AREA OF META DATA	TO BE FILLED BY CONTENT GENERATOR
1	THEME	Concept Map on Religious Policy of Akbar
2	SUBJECT	History
3	CHAPTER	The Mughal Empire
4	CLASS/LEVEL	Class VII
5	OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop an understanding of the religious policy of Akbar • To realise the importance of the spirit of secularism. India. • To appreciate the relevance of this policy in present day times.
6	DESCRIPTION	<p>Akbar was one of the greatest rulers of the Mughal Empire. He was known for his liberal thoughts on religion and philosophy. Akbar himself was brought up in an environment of different religious influences. While his father was a central Asian Sunni, Akbar since childhood was influenced by the Sufis. He became an ardent devotee of Sheikh Muinuddin Chishti at Ajmer. While he had Rajput princesses as wives, his interaction with officials like Raja Todar Mal and Birbal and with scholars such as Abul Fazl helped in evolving his views on religion. He developed a deep interest in religious and philosophical debates and discussions which led to the</p>

foundation of the Ibadat Khana.

Some of the measures adopted by him point towards a liberal and secular outlook:

- He got many Sanskrit texts such as the Ramayana and the Mahabharata translated into Persian.
- He granted religious freedom to Hindus by abolishing jaziya, tax paid by Hindus in their capacity as *zimmis*. Abolition of *jaziya* caused a huge loss to the treasury and Akbar was even severely criticised by the Muslim orthodoxy.
- He himself participated in Hindu festivals like Holi, Diwali and Raksha Bandhan.
- He abolished the practice of forcibly converting prisoners of war of Islam.
- He allowed Hindus to build temples in country.
- He also introduced a new religious idea called *Din-i-ilahi* for his subjects.
- He concluded that all religions preach the message of love, respect and peace.
- He built a common hall for worship called Ibadat Khana in Fatehpur Sikri where discussions on religion took place.

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KEY WORDS

Pilgrim tax, Jaziya, Ibadat khana, Sulh-i-kul, Din-i-ilahi

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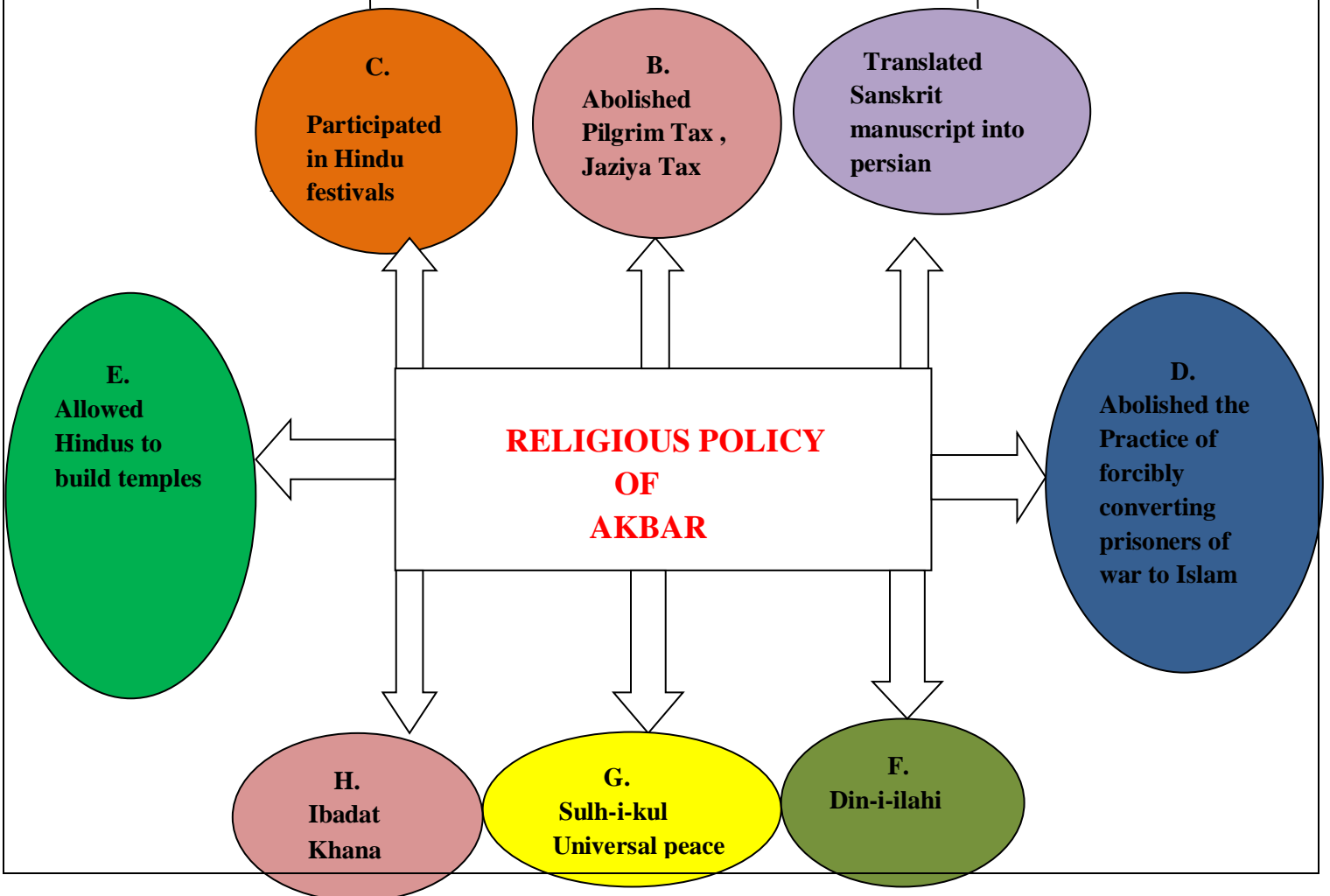
en.wikipedia.org

Holi festival in Mughal period



en.wikipedia.org

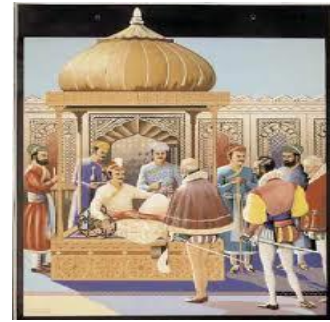
Sanskrit manuscript





**Ibadat Ibadat
Khana**

[en.wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org)



**Pictures
of
Akbar
court**

**Instruction for ciet:
Please hyperlink the
Columns .**

A.

Akbar got the holy books of Hindus translated into Persian.

E.

Akbar encouraged the Hindus to build temples. He also gave grants to many temples.

B.

Akbar abolished the pilgrim tax in 1562 which for long had been opposed by the Hindus. He also abolished Jaziya the indiscriminate tax on Hindus.

F.

After interacting with people of different religions for many years, Akbar concluded that all religions preach the message of love, respect and peace. He felt that if the common ideals of all religions could be combined to form a new creed the people of his empire would benefit from it. He suggested a religious path called "**Din-i-ilahi**" or Divine Monotheism religion of one God. The practice of worshipping sun, fire and other sources of light was an important.

C.

He participated in Hindu festivals such as Holi, Diwali and Raksha bandan.

D.

Akbar abolished the practice of forcibly converting prisoners of war to Islam.

H.

Akbar was interested in learning about different religion. He built the Ibadat Khana(Hall of Worship) at Fatehpur Sikri. He held debates and discussions with the religious teachers of all religions. He started discussions on religion with the ulama, Brahmanas, Jesuit priests who were Roman Catholics and Zoroastrians. He was

G.

Akbar introduced a new idea of Sulh-I-Kul or "Universal peace." This idea of tolerance did not discriminate between people of different religions in his realm. Instead it focused on a system of ethics- honesty, justice, peace-that was universally applicable.

Do you know that Akbar follow the secular policies for his subjects? These policies creates a positive environment for Hindu and Muslim communities. In present day the preamble of Indian constitution also promotes the values of Secularism, Justice, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, social and economic justice.

Think this?

Is our constitution also follow the secular values promoted by Akbar?

Was Akbar forerunner of Indian Constitution?





PREAMBLE

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having resolved to constitute India into a **SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC** and to secure to all its citizens -

- JUSTICE, social, economic and political;
- LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;
- EQUALITY of status and of opportunity;

and to promote among them all

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation;

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty - ninth day of November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.

Activity for Teachers

Initiate a discussion in class on the following:

How far have the policies of Akbar supported the guiding values of the preamble of the Indian Constitution?

Activity for Students

Match the following

SIDE-A	SIDE-B
1. Sulah-i-kul	1. Tax
2. Ibadat Khana	2. Religious path
3. Din-i-ilahi	3. Secular policy
4. Jaziya	4. Worshipping hall
5. Liberty	5. Brotherhood
6. Equality	6. Just Behaviour
7. Fraternity	7. Equal ness
8. Justice	8. Freedom

Answer key:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Sulah-i-kul | 1. Secular policy |
| 2. Ibadat Khana | 2. Worshipping hall |
| 3. Din-i-ilahi | 3. Religious path |
| 4. Jaziya | 4. Tax |
| 5. Liberty | 5. Freedom |
| 6. Equality | 6. Equal ness |
| 7. Fraternity | 7. Brotherhood |
| 8. Justice | 8. Just Behavior |



