

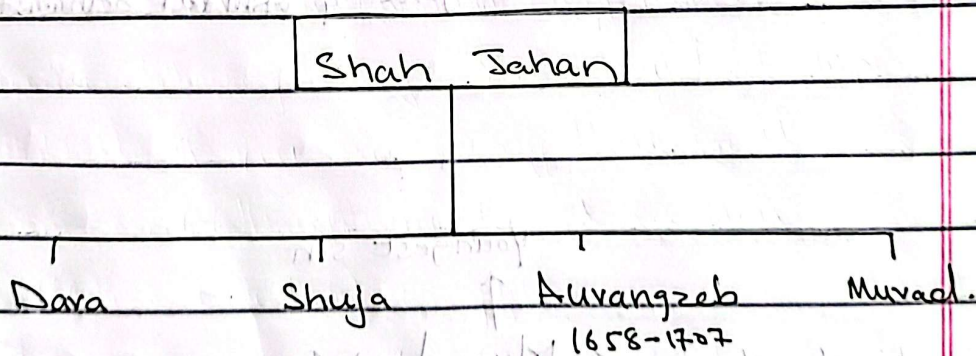
Q Discuss the War of Succession?

Introduction.

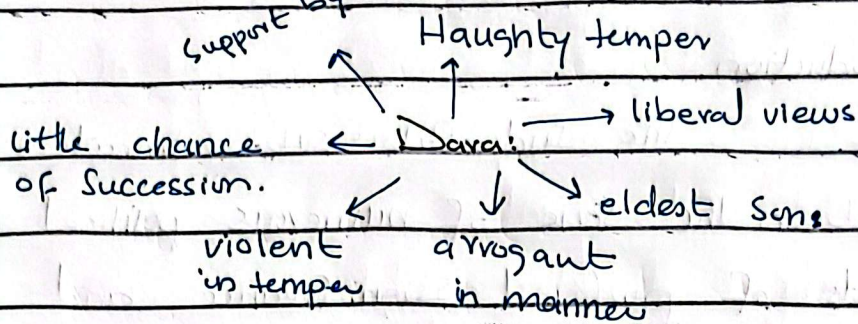
The Indo-Pak sub-continent has been the scene of numerous political events of profound significance and far-reaching consequences. With the Shah Jahan's illness in 1657, the war begins. Aurangzeb's dramatic accession to the throne of Indo-Pak can also be rightly regarded as one of a political event.

Question: For fitness for the throne:

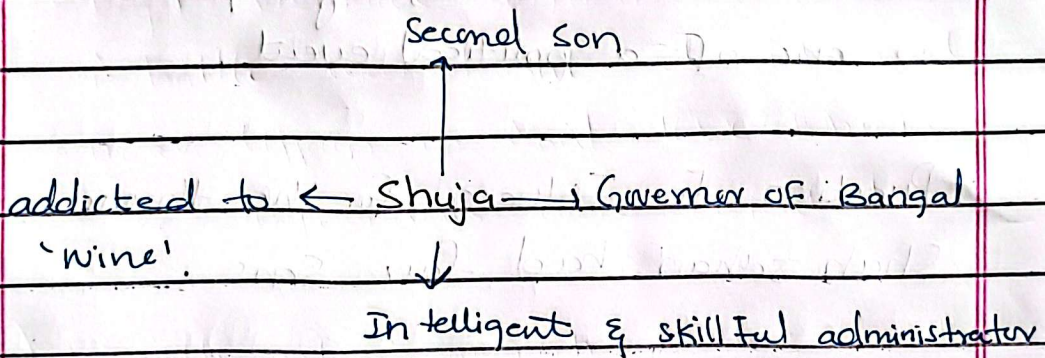
Shah Jahan had four sons.



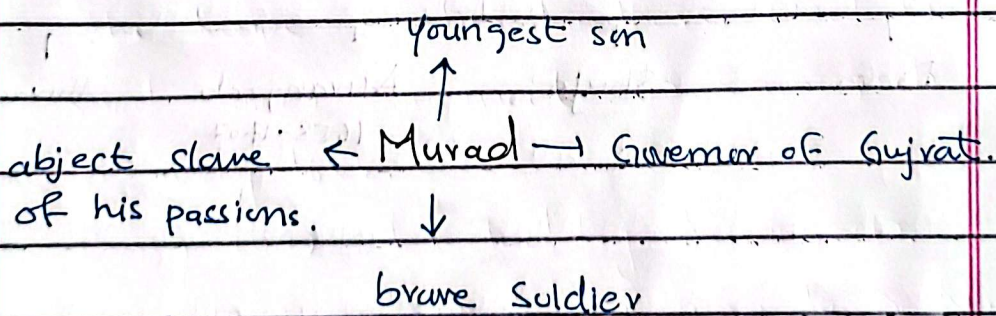
1) Dara: Jahangir's (sister).



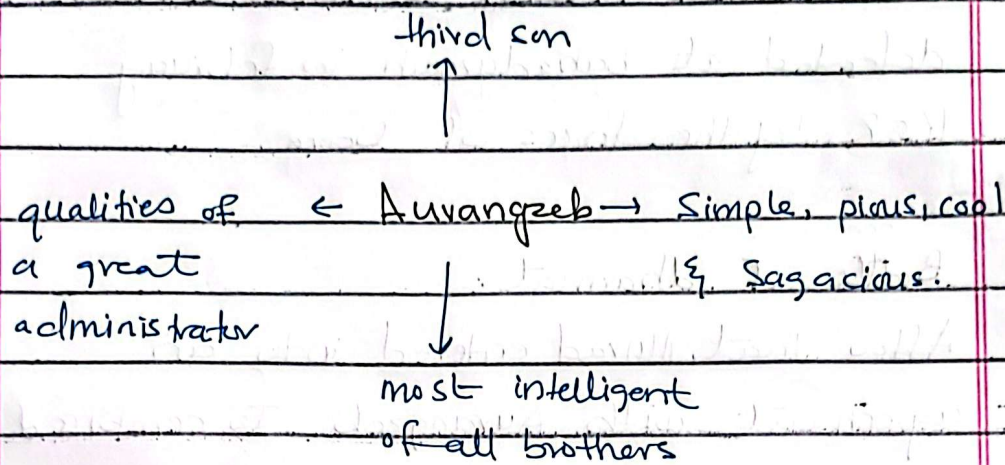
2)



3)



u)



Absence of the definite law of Succession.

As from the history it is common in Mughals that they fight for the throne. 'The survival of the fittest' was the general principle of Succession. Like Babur, Humayun, Akbar, Jahangir and Shah Jahan, all fought for throne.

Chief events of War of Succession:

a) Battle of Bahadurgarh.

Shuja the Governor of Bengal, was the first who made a determined bid for the throne and proclaimed himself emperor in September, 1657.

He marched towards benares but was defeated at bahadurgarh in february 1658 by the forces of Dara.

b) Battle of dharmat:

After that, Mirad entered into an agreement with Aurangzeb. To combined forces of the two brothers to meet the Imperial forces under the command of Wasim Khan and Raja Jaswant Singh in 1658.

A battle was fought at Dharmat near Ujjain in April, 1658 which the imperialists were defeated.

c) Battle of Samugarh decides the throne.

Dara, itself take the field, in a March cut from agra to meet and deal the troops of his brothers, and the rival forces are meet in Samugarh in May 1658.

Dara was defeated by Aurangzeb.

Dara was escaped to agra to Delhi,

Aurangzeb instead pursuing Dara,

occupied agra in 1658.

Further, Murad was arrested under the orders of Aurangzeb & sent to prisoner.

'Thereafter Aurangzeb ascended the throne of Indo-Pakistan in July 1658.'

d) Execution of Murad

In 1661, Murad was put to death on a charge of murder. Sulayman Shikoh, who after the defeat of his father took shelter with a Hindu chief of the Garhwal hills was pursued.

e) confinement of Shah Jahan by Aurangzeb

Aurangzeb

His confinement in the royal palace was also justified by the fact that

Shah Jahan wanted to crush

Aurangzeb and re-instate Dara. So

Aurangzeb was painfully compelled to take this drastic step of imprisoning his old ailing father for the safety of his own life and position.

Dara Executed by the religious cause
In 'Alamgirnama' of Aurangzeb fully support his point of view in the following words "the pillars of faith apprehended disturbances from his (Dara's) life. The emperor, therefore, out of necessity to protect the holy land and also for reasons of the State, considered it unlawful to allow him to remain alive". Thus Dara was justifiably executed.

Shuja's death caused by others
Being defeated in the battle of Khajwa, Shuja escaped to the Arakan hills where he met his death at the hands of the Arakanese.

Weakness and unwise policy of Shah Jahan
Most of the historians of Mughal period have ascribed the success of Aurangzeb in the war of succession to his luck.

Some historians say it a war of Islamism.

But this view has not been accepted by the modern historians. According to them, the weakness of Shah Jahan was one of the causes of Aurangzeb's success.

Conclusion:

In history it was an most remembered event in the succession of throne. It shows that, brothers are fighting for the throne which was used by the English man or Britisher at the time of invading the sub-continent. After Aurangzeb the down fall of Mughals were started. Aurangzeb was a great general & statesman. His presence of mind and his capacity for strategic combination and dexterity in arranging the position of the army were far superior to those of his rival brother. Some historian say that Aurangzeb success of important for emerging of Islam as Aurangzeb was an orthodox & if other brother of Aurangzeb were success the throne

then Islam could had be in downfall
like Dara was more connected
toward Hindus.