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The topic of the Research: Court Culture of the Mughals.

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Key Findings

This study explores the Mughal court as a central institution in shaping kingship, governance, and imperial ideology. It investigates the court's symbolic, administrative, and diplomatic roles, emphasizing its evolution as a space of both temporal authority and spiritual legitimacy.

- Conceptual Foundation: The Mughal court evolved from earlier Islamic traditions, shaped by both continuity and innovation. Medieval thinkers and contemporary observers viewed the court as a sacred and political space.
- Symbols and Hierarchies: Power was articulated through spatial arrangements, royal titles, rituals, and courtly hierarchy. These elements affirmed the emperor's supreme authority and reinforced loyalty.
- Administrative and Diplomatic Function: The court managed state affairs, foreign diplomacy, and policy-making. Ceremonies and festivals served both political and cultural purposes, strengthening state control.
- Cultural Norms and Etiquette: Courtly conduct and etiquette were essential in constructing the emperor's idealized image. Submission to imperial protocol reflected the political order and reinforced the king's dominance.
- Conclusion: Despite early limitations, the Mughals transformed the court into a dynamic and multifaceted institution. It became the epicenter of imperial authority, integrating governance, ceremony, diplomacy, and symbolism.